

Hafa Adai!

Matson awards scholarships. **PAGE 7**

'Bus stop jurisdiction remains unclear' **PAGE 14**

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NWS: Prepare for drought

Defense calls for mistrial

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The ongoing jury trial for an alleged rape incident has been delayed because of a motion filed by the defense for the court to declare a mistrial in the case.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja ordered Bruce Ber-

line, the lawyer for Manolo Romolor, to submit a motion for a mistrial and for prosecutor Teri Tenorio to respond.

The arguments will be heard in court today and will delay the ongoing jury trial. Romolor is on trial for alleged rape.

The order came following a
See DEFENSE on Page 4

'I said no but he didn't stop'

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The alleged victim in a sexual assault case took the witness stand Tuesday in Superior Court and told jurors that she told her alleged rapist "no" even as her assailant continued to assault her.

In the ongoing jury trial of Manolo Romolor, the victim stood behind her claim that Romolor raped her over two years ago despite the defense lawyer finding

See I SAID on Page 4

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Commonwealth residents are being encouraged to prepare for a drought, which could mean increased collateral effects such as lesser water to go around and more brush fires.

According to Nadine Deleon Guerrero, the external affairs officer of the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency, the Commonwealth experiences a drought every year, but it started earlier than usual this year and they are unsure how long it will last.

That means the CNMI community should be pre-

pared to conserve water and to keep burning to an absolute minimum to ensure safety from wildfires.

Deleon Guerrero said the drought started in January when it usually starts around March.

"Just be mindful that it won't be raining as much and
See DROUGHT on Page 4

Antonelli's service to be remembered

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez said the dedication and service of Monsignor Louis Antonelli will be remembered by everyone who met him while he was pastor of the San Francisco de Borja and San Isidro parishes. Antonelli, who celebrated his 100th birthday in September last year, died Tuesday night

at the Rota Health Center in Songsong. The cause of death was not immediately known.

The Pennsylvania-native

was ordained a priest when he was 30 years old. For the next 70 years, he faithfully executed his duties in the priesthood, which included 46 years of serving the people of Rota.

"With deep sorrow I received the news [Tuesday], of the death of Msgr. Antonelli, retired clergy of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa. His commitment to remain in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, and to be with the

people of Rota through his retirement, surpasses any known clergy service record
See ANTONELLI on Page 4



Antonelli



Bruce Berline, front, defense lawyer for Manolo Romolor, rear, leaves the Horiguchi Building after the continuation yesterday of Romolor's trial in Superior Court.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

INSIDE



LOCAL

The Marianas Young Professionals presented an award and cash prizes to three more artists.

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NATION

Mexico's notorious drug lord, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, is convicted.

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LIFE & STYLE

Glenn Close may finally break through the Oscars ceiling with "The Wife."

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Local

Tinian Hot Pepper Festival to debut mascot

The New England Patriots have Pat Patriot, the Chicago Bulls have Benny the Bull, Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival has Sir Besa, and Tinian Hot Pepper Festival has, well, everyone will find out this weekend!

A mascot for the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival, now celebrating its 15th year, will be unveiled at this weekend's event. The festival is on Feb. 16-17.

"We are very excited to unveil the mascot for the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival," said Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Thomas Kim. "With this being the first mascot ever created for the festival, we wanted to give it a name that tied-in with the festival theme hot pepper, so we have decided to name the mascot 'Pika,' which means 'spicy' in the Chamorro language. We look forward to bringing more creative ideas and activities to all our upcoming events."

The full festival with live entertainment will be from 2pm to 9pm on Feb. 16 and from 10am to 9pm on Feb. 17. Food vendors only will also open at 10am on Feb. 16.

Activities during the weekend will include live entertainment, a variety of local dishes for sale, indigenous craft sales, and a variety of contests.

"We are grateful that despite the ravages of the recent typhoons, people are coming for the festival," said MVA Tinian field supervisor Vida Borja. "The boost in days tour arrivals to our small island is very inspiring, and this event will surely be an added boost to the overall wonderful Tinian experience."

Slots are still open for this weekend's competitions with cash, phone prize packages, and other giveaways awaiting the winners. Contests include the Katdon Pika (spicy stew) Cooking Contest and JC Café Pika Burger Eating Contest on Saturday and the hot pepper "mwar"-making (flower head lei) Contest, Hot Pepper Eating Contest and Pika Wing Eating Contest on Sunday at 3pm. The wing-eating contest will challenge contestants ages 18 and up to see who can eat the most number of wings in 15 minutes. First place wins \$100 cash and a Samsung J6 Pro phone and three-month free service from IT&E, but anyone who can finish 30 wings in the allotted time will win an increased grand prize of \$500 cash and the phone prize package. If more than one contestant finishes 30 wings in the allotted time, contestants will enter a "sudden death" round; the qualified contestants will each receive 15 minutes to see who can eat the most number of wings. Eventually, only one winner will earn the grand prize of \$500 cash plus the phone prize package, or the \$100 cash prize plus the phone prize package.

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Non-cash prizes will be awarded for the kids' "umang" (hermit crab) race, single elimination tug-of-war, and Cha Cha Dance Off. Contestants can sign up for the contests by visiting the MVA offices on Saipan or Tinian or at the MVA booth at the festival grounds.

Star Marianas Air, in cooperation with the Marianas Visitors Authority and Tinian Mayor's Office, will extend its normal hours of operation during the festival. On Feb. 15-Feb. 17, scheduled flights will be extended by three hours, with the last flights leaving Tinian at 9:30pm. Flights will leave Saipan hourly at the top of the hour (starting at 7am) and Tinian hourly at the bottom of the hour (starting at 7:30am). Advanced bookings are accepted for Star Marianas, but travelers can also show up at the airport on Saipan or Tinian and expect to be transported in a timely fashion. To minimize airport waiting times, interested travelers are encouraged to contact Star Marianas Air's reservations team at 1-670-433-9996/8 to find out if a particular time of the day is expected to be busier than others. For more information visit www.starmarianasair.com.

The MVA is also offering ferry service between Tinian and Saipan on Feb. 15-18, 2018. The ferry schedule is: Feb. 15, departing Saipan at 5pm and departing Tinian that evening; Feb.

16, departing Saipan at 9am and departing Tinian at 4pm; Feb. 17, departing Saipan at 9am and departing Tinian at 4pm; and Feb. 18, departing Saipan at 8am and departing Tinian at 12pm. The Super Emerald ferry will depart from the Commonwealth Ports Authority dock in Lower Base. Passengers must check in one hour before departure.

Ferry round trip cost is \$25 for ages 3-11, \$35 for ages 12 and older, and free for children ages 0-2. For one way, the cost is \$10 for ages 3-11, \$18 for ages 12 and older, and free for children ages 0-2. Advance ticket purchase is required and will be accommodated on a first come, first served basis. Ticket purchases may be made at the MVA Office on Tinian or Saipan. Cash payments only will be accepted.

Individuals arriving via the ferry will be shuttled directly to the festival grounds, and those departing via the ferry can catch the shuttle leaving the festival beginning an hour-and-a-half before ferry departure time. Individuals arriving or departing at Tinian International Airport can call for a shuttle at 1-670-783-4541 or visit the MVA information booth at the festival grounds for assistance.

The 65K Pika Bike Race will be held on Feb. 16 at 6am and will begin and end at the festival site at Kammer Beach. To register for the 65K Pika Bike Race and avail of free ferry on Feb. 15, bikers may contact Alex Gozon at alexgozon@yahoo.com or 1.670.234.5416 or Dawn Sarmiento at dawn-sarmiento@yahoo.com. Bikers from Saipan who register for the race will be able to travel on the Feb. 15 ferry to Tinian at 5pm.

The event is co-organized by the Tinian Mayor's Office and Tinian Municipal Council and sponsored by Bicycling Association of Tinian and MVA members.

Campgrounds are open to the public at Kammer Beach, which has restrooms, outdoor showers, and five pavilions with sinks and barbecue grills.

Available hotels on island are Tinian Ocean View and Lorynn's Hotel.

Air service from Saipan to Tinian is provided by Star Marianas. Airport shuttle will be offered by the MVA to and from the festival site, which will be in San Jose village.

For more information on the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or the MVA Facebook page, call the MVA Tinian office at 433-9365, or email Borja at vborja@mymarianas.com. (MVA)

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Emergency power interruptions on Saipan

There will be a series of scheduled power interruptions in the following days on Saipan, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

■ Saturday, Feb. 16 – 6am to 12pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 2 distribution circuit
- Village location: Garapan
- Area(s) affected: Beach Road, Garapan
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: S-5 and S-4
- Pole replacement(s): Four

■ Sunday, Feb. 17 – 6am to 12pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 2 distribution circuit
- Village location: Garapan
- Area(s) affected: Beach Road, Garapan
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: S-5 and S-4
- Pole replacement(s): Four

■ Monday, Feb. 18 – 6am to 12pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 2 distribution circuit
- Village location: Garapan
- Area(s) affected: Beach Road, Garapan
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: S-5 and S-4
- Pole replacement(s): Four

■ Tuesday, Feb. 19 – 8am to 6pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 2 distribution circuit
- Village location: Garapan

- Area(s) affected: Garapan
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: S-10, S-11 and S-12
- Pole replacement(s): Eight

■ Wednesday Feb. 20 – 8am to 4pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 3 distribution circuit
- Village location: Chalan Laulau
- Area(s) affected: Chalan Lau Lau and Gualo Rai
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None
- Pole replacement(s): Six

■ Thursday, Feb. 21 – 8am to 6pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 3 distribution circuit
- Village location: Gualo Rai
- Area(s) affected: Gualo Rai Middle Road
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: GR-1
- Pole Replacement(s): 5
- Conductor removal: 10 spans

■ Friday, Feb. 22 – 8am to 6pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 3 distribution circuit
- Village location: Gualo Rai
- Area(s) affected: Gualo Rai Middle Road
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: GR-1
- Pole Replacement(s): 5
- Conductor removal: 10 spans

■ Saturday, Feb. 23 – 8am to 6pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized

feeder outage on the Kiya 3 distribution circuit

- Village location: Gualo Rai
- Area(s) affected: Gualo Rai Middle Road
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) af-

ected: None

■ Sunday, Feb. 24 – 8am to 6pm

- Pole replacement(s): Six
- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 3 distribution circuit
- Village location: Gualo Rai

- Area(s) affected: Gualo Rai Middle Road
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None
- Pole replacement(s): Six

■ Monday, Feb. 25 – 8am to 6pm

- Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Kiya 3 distribution circuit

- Village location: Gualo Rai
- Area(s) affected: Gualo Rai Middle Road
- Water well(s) affected: None
- Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None
- Pole replacement(s): Six
- For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282. (PR)

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NMI looks to adopt int'l building codes

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) has re-introduced a bill that would require the

Oahu shopping mall adopts Hawaiian language name

HONOLULU (AP)—Buildings at a shopping mall on Oahu have been renamed in the Hawaiian language amid a growing trend of Hawaii businesses adopting Hawaiian names.

The Pearlridge Shopping Center has adopted the name Wai Makai for its complex formerly known as Down-

town after more than 20 years in operation, Hawaii Public Radio reported Monday.

The company worked with landowner Kamehameha Schools, community leaders and Native Hawaiian consulting firm DTL before deciding on a name, said Diana Su-Niimi, the mall's marketing director.

Code Council, aims to address health and safety conditions of buildings.

Senate Bill 21-3 was introduced as S.B. 20-46 in the previous Legislature. At that time, the House and Senate passed the legislation after making some amendments. It was left unassigned to a committee after being recalled from the Governor's Office.

S.B. 21-3 is the same bill that Igisomar introduced in the 20th Legislature.

Right now, the CNMI is still using the 2009 version

of the building code as established by the International Conference of Building Officials. The ICBO-established building code is updated every three years. The new bill would require the Building Safety Code Division of the Department of Public Works to adopt the IBC.

The bill states that it is critical that the latest building code is up-to-date with national standards.

"It is the intent of the Legislature, therefore, to adopt the [IBC] as the of-

ficial building code of the [CNMI], to make the 2012 edition the current version applied in the Commonwealth and to direct the Building Safety Official to adopt subsequent updates to, or new editions of the [IBC] as needed," states S.B. 21-3.

The ICC publishes the IBC. The building safety

code would provide standards for location, design, material, construction, enlargement maintenance, use, occupancy, and moving of buildings and structures in the CNMI.

The CNMI regulations shall be applied if conflicts or contradictions exist between BSC regulations issued under the IBC.

DROUGHT

From Page 1

keep yourselves hydrated," she added.

Last Tuesday, the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, issued a notice of anticipated dry weather for the Commonwealth. In fact, it has started already, with NWS noting diminished rainfall over the Commonwealth since January.

Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and

the far Northern Islands will experience the severe impact of the drought.

In particular for Saipan, the drawdown of fresh water resources could be a problem in the next few weeks to months. Vegetation will dry out and a severe wildfire season could develop, especially where debris from Typhoon Yutu remains.

Because of the anticipated dry weather, HSEM is advising the community to take all necessary precautions at this time.

Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Garapan Fishing Dock and Civic Center and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (en-

terococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 3rd birthday
Angel Sofia Pineda
from Daddy June
and Mommy Dhorie.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DEFENSE

From Page 1

verbal motion for mistrial and a warning from Naraja last Tuesday.

In the continuation of Romolor's jury trial on Tuesday, Berline verbally filed a motion for a mistrial, accusing the prosecutor of incompetence and an inability to defend the victim and the government.

"I want to be in trial with a competent prosecutor. That's how trials are supposed to go, somebody who knows the rules of evidence, knows her duty to protect the system, protect the jurors, to protect the witnesses, and to protect

the Judiciary. That's the duty of the prosecutor," he said.

Berline said he wants a mistrial declared because Tenorio was vouching for the witness, misstated testimonies, and testified for the witness.

"Vouching, it's when the prosecutor calls a witness by the first name. The prosecutor is supposed to be an unbiased representative of the government. You can't just talk to a witness and give this impression, 'We're friends and I really believe you.' No. The prosecution can't say to the jury, 'I believe her, or she's telling the truth.' That's improper vouching for a witness. That includes referring to someone on a first-name basis, [which] implies

that there's some special relationship. Another thing is you can't misstate testimonies. The other thing is you can't testify as a prosecutor," he said.

Following the verbal motion, Naraja warned Tenorio that if changes are not made, a hearing for a mistrial would be considered.

When asked for comments, Tenorio said, as a prosecutor, she is prohibited from speaking about or responding to inquiries on active or ongoing cases.

Berline argued that Romolor's right to due process is being violated due to prosecutorial error.

"Prosecutorial error is a large standard but it's cumulative and, after a while, when

I have to stand up on nearly every question, and object, in front of the jury, at one point that becomes a violation of Mr. Manalo's due process rights for a fair trial. This is not the way. This is becoming a travesty. My client is facing 30 years maximum and we're only on the second witness. This can't be justice," he said.

"At this point, I never made more objections in my entire life in any trial...and I never had any more objections sustained. As a defense attorney, I like winning my objections but, after a while, it becomes a due process issue when the prosecutor, time and time again, makes these errors," he added.

long-distance boyfriend.

The victim said she took over five shots of heavy liquor in a short amount of time and felt sick a little after. The victim said she remembers throwing up twice, taking a bath, getting dressed, and falling asleep on the bed at her friend's house. The victim added that she later shared the bed with her male friend, his girlfriend, and their three children.

The victim said her sleep was disrupted when she felt the weight of a person on her body, who was painfully kissing her and sexually assaulting her. At first, the victim said she paid no mind because she thought it was her boyfriend but then quickly realized he had already left the island.

The victim said that after failed attempts to look at the man's face, she stopped trying because she claims she felt helpless and felt no energy until her friend's girlfriend woke

up and punched the man three times until he rolled over beside her. The victim said she still did not know who the man was at that moment.

The victim said as she tried to piece together the events that had just transpired, she felt the man sexually assault her again with his hands and that led her to sit up and exit the room.

Before exiting the room, the victim said she was able to get a good look at the man who just assaulted her twice and it was Romolor.

The victim said Romolor left the bedroom shortly after her and she confronted him, asking him what he had done to her and he responded that he was drunk too.

After the confrontation, the victim said she woke the two other adults in the bedroom, discussed what had happened, and asked her friend to drop her home.

in the Commonwealth," said Jimenez in a statement.

One of Antonelli's last requests was to have his remains buried within 24 hours after his death. A Mass in his honor was held at 1pm yesterday at the San Isidro Church in Sinapalo and he was buried at the Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Patten Gogue, Rota.

Jimenez said a Tridentine Mass—a Mass in Latin—will be held at the place of Antonelli's burial on the ninth day after his passing. The time will be determined and announced at a later date.

In a joint statement, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, along with their families, also extended their condolences to the people of Rota and the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

"For almost half his life, Pale Antonelli served the people of Rota and provided spiritual guidance to everyone he had met. Everyone in the CNMI knew who Pale Antonelli was. We live on different islands, but we know how much he meant to the people of Rota and for the Marianas as a whole," said the statement.

"He lived a simple life, but had a profound impact on the people of Rota. We join them and the rest of the Commonwealth in mourning the loss of a servant of God who has shaped the course of our Commonwealth from the very beginning. May he rest in peace."

In a separate statement, Rep. L.J. Castro (R-Saipan) joined the people of Rota in mourning the death of Antonelli, whom he said tended to the Catholic faithful of the CNMI's southernmost island

even though he was already in his 90s.

"He was both a spiritual leader and [an] island institution, someone who had a profound impact on many generations of Rota's residents. His leadership was instrumental in the formation and spiritual development of our current bishop [Jimenez], and Rota's first and only homegrown priest, Fr. Isaac Ayuyu," said Castro.

"His great humility and devotion to his ministry compelled the late St. Pope John Paul II to elevate him to the rank of monsignor, the first and only priest of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa to receive the honor after the diocese's formation."

Castro said he always looked forward to meeting Antonelli whenever he was on Saipan. "Even into his retirement, he continued to preach the Good News to the faithful from his chapel at his beloved farm. As a child, I fondly looked forward to receiving the famous 'Pennsylvania Punch' from him when he would fly up for Christmas Mass, with the both of us sharing smiles afterwards."

"With his passing, the diocese, Luta, and the Marianas have lost a pillar of faith and an important figurehead in the growth of the Catholic Church on our islands. My condolences to Bishop Ryan and the clergy, along with those whose lives he touched for the loss of 'i Pâle Luta', a treasured part of the island's religious and cultural history."

Antonelli, a member of the Congregation of the Sacred Stigmata or Stigmatines founded by Gaspar Bertoni, helped establish the Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja in 1989.

I SAID

From Page 1

holes in her story.

During direct examination by Office of the Attorney General's Teri Tenorio, the alleged victim told the jury and Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja that, although she doesn't remember much about the night of her assault, she does remember that she was raped without her consent.

"I told him no, get off of me but he didn't stop what he was doing to me...He raped me," she said.

During cross-examination by defense lawyer Bruce Berline, he pointed out several points in her testimony that did not match the interviews she had with investigators, doctors, and even her lawyer, Tenorio, in 2016.

Some of the alleged inconsistencies include the times

and the timespan of the incident and how she could not remember the answers she gave doctors, investigators, her lawyer, and more.

The victim did admit that she was not threatened or coerced into having sex with Romolor, but rather she did not defend herself or called for help as she was allegedly being raped.

The victim said that on the night before the incident, November 2016, she had gotten extremely drunk, got sick a few times, and was put to bed by two friends, only to wake up with a man assaulting her that she claims was Romolor.

In her testimony, the victim said that the incident happened following a party at one of her friend's house. It was her friend's child's birthday party. She said she wanted to get extremely drunk at the party because she was upset about an argument she had with her

The Guam Army National Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion competed and were recognized on Jan. 30 during the recent R&R Force Leadership and Director's 54 Annual Training and Awards Conference at the Bolger Center in Potomac, Maryland.

The Guam Guard earned three major awards for the Small States Category, which consists of 23 states and territories in the U.S.:

■ The Retention Excellence Award for Fiscal Year 2018 (Small States);

■ The National Guard Bureau HRR Top Recruiting and Retention for Fiscal Year 2018 (Small States); and

■ 2019 NGB Quick Draw Challenge (Small States)

The Retention Excellence Award assesses the highest overall accomplishment in strength maintenance as measured by recruiting, retention, and attrition. Guam earned the award by focusing recruiting efforts on filling unit vacancies and focusing attrition management and retention efforts on reducing turnover and maintaining more qualified soldiers in their units.

The National Guard Bureau's Recruiting and Retention Headquarters' Top Recruiting and Retention Award for fiscal year 2018 recognized Guam's achievements atop all 23 in the Small States category.

For the HRR Quick Draw

Guam Guard recruiters battalion earns 3 awards



Members of the Guam Army National Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion pose with the awards they won at the R&R Force Leadership and Director's 54 Annual Training and Awards Conference at the Bolger Center in Potomac, Maryland last on Jan. 30.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Challenge for fiscal year 2019, states were challenged during the time period of Nov. 1, 2018, to Jan. 11, 2019, to improve recruiting efforts from the same time period during the previous year. Guam took first place for the Small States and was awarded a framed replica of Gen. George Washington's flintlock pistol.

Lt. Col. Charles Douglas, commander of the Guam Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion, was quick to credit the soldiers for the accomplishments. "Their dedication and teamwork [were] evident as they continue to perform admirably. I am very proud they were recognized as tops in the field." (PR)

Interventional radiologists to hold clinic at CHC

Dr. Jeffery Shay and Dr. Nathaniel Berg, experienced interventional radiologists, will be holding a clinic at the Commonwealth Health Center today, Feb. 14, 2019.

Screening for peripheral arterial disease, or PAD, atherosclerotic peripheral vascular disease, or ASPVD, as well as ankle-brachial index and toe-brachial index (ABI and TBI) will be provided.

"We strongly encourage providers to refer patients with claudication, poorly healing wounds/ulcerations, rest pain and lower extremity discoloration," said a Guam Radiology Consultants statement.

"We urge providers to send any patients who have undergone an amputation in the past.

"Likewise, patients who are already scheduled for amputation can also benefit before or after surgery by increasing flow to the amputation site, al-

lowing for improved healing and prevention of future amputations.

"An appropriate work-up and endovascular therapy leads to a decrease in repeat amputation. We want to help as many patients as possible.

Berg is available to answer any questions about the Guam Radiology Consultants, the services offered, and the importance of PAD and ASPVD screening.

Joining Shay and Berg is Dr. Peachy Mae T. Piaña, who will be conducting the clinic for women's health, specifically breast consults and procedures.

Send your inquiries and referrals to cnmi@guamradiology.com or fax to (671) 647-4600.

Sheila Baisa, CHC's patient care coordinator will assist patients with their referrals. (PR)

6.2-magnitude quake hits Agrihan

At 10:45pm on Feb. 12 2019, a report of a 6.2 magnitude earthquake occurred 42 miles north-northeast of Agrihan, Northern Marianas Islands. There were no reports of personnel injuries or damage to

infrastructure and no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

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NMC

Matson Navigation Co. recently awarded scholarships to Northern Marianas College students Aysha P. Cabrera, sitting right; Jimmy Blanca Jr., sitting center; and Joyce Cuenca, sitting left.

Matson awards scholarships

In keeping with the company's commitment to support higher education, the Matson Navigation Company Scholarship Program recently awarded academic scholarships to three Northern Marianas College students.

Matson awards scholarships to three full-time NMC students pursuing a degree in either a bachelor's in business management or an associate of

science in accounting during each academic school year. The scholarships are awarded based on financial need, merit, eligibility, the content of the applicant's essay, and an interview panel.

This was the company's third donation of scholarships to NMC students.

The students who were selected to receive the Matson scholarships are Aysha P. Ca-

brera, Jimmy Blanca Jr., and Joyce M. Cuenca. The three recipients had undergone a highly competitive application process that included several essay requirements and a panel interview.

Blanca, Cabrera, and Cuenca are also first-year students studying in areas of business. Both Cabrera and Cuenca are business management majors with a focus on accounting,

Rotary's Las Vegas Night to push through at Fiesta

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Saipan's signature annual fundraiser, Las Vegas Night, will finally take place in March, this time at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

With Super Typhoon Yutu forcing the Rotary to move it from its original November 2018 schedule, Las Vegas Night will now take place on March 30, 2019.

Saipan Rotary Club president Greg Borja noted that ticket selling for the event will resume today after a minor setback in their

gambling permit application with the Department of Commerce.

"We are just trying to finalize our application in regards to the gambling permit at the Department of Commerce," said Borja. "We are missing only one application,"

The Rotary expected that missing application to be completed and submitted to the Office of the Attorney General yesterday afternoon, with ticket selling to follow today immediately.

According to Borja, the prizes for the annual event includes a grand prize of

either \$10,000 or a 2019 Mazda car, \$3,000 as second prize, \$2,000 as third prize, \$1,000 as fourth prize, and \$500 for the fifth prize.

The funds raised from the event would primarily go to the construction of a new playground at the Sugar King Park. The new playground, Borja said, would be handicap-accessible. He said the Rotary would need about \$20,000 as seed money.

The rest of the funds would be used for the youth exchange programs that the Saipan Rotary Club regularly hosts with Rotary clubs in Tokyo, Japan.

Flores-Diego, Elm are newest BoG VPs

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam announced Tuesday the promotion of Jacinta Benavente Elm and Ellie-Rose Flores-Diego as the bank's newest vice presidents.

Elm is promoted to vice president/Anti Money Laundering and Fraud Investigation Division manager and Flores-Diego is promoted to vice president/compliance manager.

Elm, who has been with the bank since 2002, was a customer service associate for four years before becoming a compliance associate in 2006, and then a Bank Secrecy Act officer in 2008 for six years. Promoted to AVP in 2014, Elm became the anti-money laundering training officer for a year before becoming the AML manager

in 2015. Prior to her promotion, she was the AML and fraud division assistant manager in 2016.

Elm is a certified anti-money laundering specialist (2016) and certified fraud examiner (2018). She has been honored with the 2017 Guam Small Business Administration Financial Services Champion of the Year and 2018 Bank of Guam President's Recognition for Supervisor of the Year.

Flores-Diego has been with Bank of Guam since 2004, starting as a customer associate, and then became in 2008 a Bank Secrecy Act/



Flores-Diego



Elm

anti-money laundering investigator in the bank's BSA department. In 2010, Flores-Diego joined the compliance department, rising from compliance associate to compliance officer before being promoted to compliance manager.

Flores-Diego is a University of Guam bachelor of business administration graduate, and holds two compliance certifications: Sheshunoff certified regulatory compliance specialist (2014) and certified regulatory compliance manager (2017). (PR)

and Blanca is a double major in natural resource management and business management.

"We are extremely grateful for Matson Navigation Company's continued support of Northern Marianas College students, especially during this recovery period after Super Typhoon Yutu," said NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico. "We look forward to working with them to help ensure that financial and academic opportunities are expanding for our students."

The purpose of the Matson Navigation Company Schol-

arship is threefold: 1) To promote higher education by providing financial assistance for college students in their pursuit of professional careers; 2) to help alleviate the critical current and future shortage of skilled and trained workforce for the CNMI; and 3) to provide current public and private sector employees with opportunities to improve their knowledge and skills, and enhance their career and professional development.

For more information about available scholarships at NMC call 237-6792 or visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)



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Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Facebook's sins now include preying on teens

Facebook celebrated its 15th anniversary Monday in all-too-familiar fashion: another privacy scandal. This one crosses the line.

Since 2016, Facebook has been paying minors as young as 13 to download an app that tracks nearly everything they do on their phones. Taking a cue from tobacco companies, the Menlo Park-based social media company advertised the app on Snapchat and Instagram, where today's teens routinely hang out.

The outrageous practice is as creepy as it is greedy. The notion that young teenagers can give informed consent is ludicrous, as any responsible parent or business leader knows.

As a parent with two children, CEO Mark Zuckerberg should know better than to profit by preying on children. The revelation destroys whatever remaining credibility he had on privacy issues.

The fact that Facebook is willing to pay teens \$20 a month for access to their private data—where they go, what web sites they visit and what they purchase—is another indicator of how much the company is profiting from consumers' data.

This isn't the first time Zuckerberg has ignored basic business ethics standards.

Remember the 2011 Federal Trade Commission investigation that revealed Facebook had falsely promised customers that it would not share their data with advertisers? Or Facebook's 2014 secret mood-manipulation scandal, in which the company altered 700,000 users' news feeds to see if viewing more positive or negative posts would have an impact on their own posts? Or the revelation last year that Facebook was aware of a massive theft of users' personal data but failed to tell the public?

A day of reckoning awaits Zuckerberg and other tech companies. The more users distrust Facebook, the more likely they are to reconsider their online habits. And the more likely Congress will crack down on companies who flaunt calls for self-regulation on basic privacy-rights issues.

Indeed, congressional action is overdue. Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Santa Clara, has proposed an Internet bill of rights that's a good starting point for legislative action.

At least California is taking action. The Legislature in 2018 passed what is regarded as the nation's toughest on-line privacy law. It's unclear whether the law's "opt-in" requirement for children younger than 16 would prevent Facebook's disgusting ploy. If it doesn't, the Legislature has work to do.

The California law doesn't take effect until 2020. In the meantime, consumers are having to rely on companies such as Apple to police Facebook. Apple blocked an internal Facebook app on iPhones and iPads for violating

See **FACEBOOK'S** on Next Page



Don't be embarrassed to 'soak the rich'

The left is beginning to make noise about asking the rich to contribute more revenue to the well-being of our public.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has suggested, for example, that our wealthiest citizens be taxed at a rate as high as 70 percent on income above \$10 million. Sen. Elizabeth Warren has proposed a tax not only on income, but on wealth. Warren's plan would impose a 2 percent annual tax on all assets worth \$50 million or more and 1 percent on assets over \$1 billion.

Predictably, the wealthy quickly objected, and not just Republicans. Potential Democratic presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg called Warren's plan "probably unconstitutional," adding that "we shouldn't be embarrassed by our system."

Possible independent candidate Howard Schultz (another billionaire) told NPR that Warren's idea is "ridiculous."

But it's not just the wealthy who are shocked by the idea of taking more money away from people just because they happen to have a lot. Many ordinary Americans are reluctant to impose higher taxes on the rich. But it's a reluctance that we should get over.

For one thing, it makes economic sense. For economics, I turn to economists. Recently, New York Times columnist Paul Krugman, himself a Nobel Prize-winning economist, noted the work of Peter Diamond, another Nobel laureate in economics, who contends that the optimal tax rate on the rich, the rate that raises the most revenue, is 73 percent. Other distinguished economists argue that the best rate is closer to 80 percent.

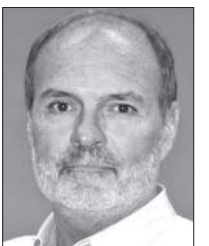
In other words, if we put aside the feelings of the rich—that is, their sense of their right to all that money—the marginal tax rate that provides the most revenue for our society is more than double the current highest rate, 37 percent. And Krugman notes the demonstrable correlation in the past between periods of high tax rates for the rich and strong economic growth.

In short, the "radical" proposals from Ocasio-Cortez and Warren are consistent with respectable economic theory and research. But how do we get over our psychological reluctance to take money away from rich people? Here's one way to think about it:

When the Pilgrims first beheld our country's favored shores, they saw almost unbounded natural resources: fertile land, timber, water and, later, coal, oil and natural gas. Much of our nation's current wealth depends on the rich bounty that greeted the

By **JOHN M. CRISP**
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcol-umns@gmail.com.



newcomers.

It's a fine aspirational American ideal to hope that all citizens have some claim to the benefits of these resources, but that's not exactly what happened. First, access to the nation's riches required the displacement of people who had already lived here for millennia.

And from the beginning the two biggest sources of labor—women and blacks, who did most of the hard work—were uncompensated. For the most part, white men reaped the benefits of the American enterprise.

Things have changed, of course. But they haven't really changed all that much, have they? Wealth is still concentrated to an inordinate degree in the hands of white men, and so is wealth's symbiotic counterpart, political power.

In fact, in recent decades, wealth and power have worked together successfully to increase the gap between those who have the most money and those who have the least. And the middle class hasn't been doing very well, either.

Of course, the wealthy would prefer that we believe that their riches are the result of hard work and innate merit. Sometimes they are.

But a great deal of wealth is entrenched, self-perpetuating and protected by the political power that money can buy.

Why should the wealthy pay more? Because they benefit the most from our common national enterprise, especially our shared national resources and the labor and the willingness of the less-wealthy to defend the American system. Without these, their wealth would be impossible.

The wealthy may not have as much as they want, but they have much more than they need. It shouldn't embarrass us to expect them to pay more. A more equitable distribution of wealth would be good for everyone, probably even the wealthy.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Elizabeth Warren and the high price of progress

President Bill Clinton claimed at a forum in 1998 that his grandmother was “one-quarter Cherokee.” The assertion, from a politician with a not-always-sterling reputation for truthfulness, went unheralded.

Clinton’s mother had earlier been described, in a 1992 article, as a “descendant of Irish farmers and Cherokee Indians.” The genealogical receipts were never in evidence. But families have their stories; few seemed to care one way or another.

They do now.

Democratic Senator Elizabeth Warren is one of the most talented politicians in the nation and one of the most important policy leaders in her party. She has superb communication skills, including the ability to distill complex class and economic dynamics into compelling, comprehensible rhetoric. She is extremely smart. She might make a fine nominee, even president.

She also can’t seem to shake a political problem that posed no noticeable discomfort to Clinton.

The latest installment—it seems there may be more—was the unearthing of an apparently not-so-confidential Texas state bar form that Warren filled out three decades ago when she was a law professor at the University of Texas. On the form she wrote her race as “American Indian.”

The discovery follows her recent release of a report she commissioned on her DNA that was occasioned by previous controversy about her claims to American Indian ancestry.

Many people find the storm over Warren ridiculous. And they have reason. At a time when the president of the United States makes regular and open appeals to bigotry, harping on Warren’s minor identity foibles seems absurd. Warren is not calling Mexicans rapists. She’s not caricaturing black neighborhoods as savage war zones where you can’t walk down the street without being shot. She has sexually assaulted no one.

Nor did Warren dress in blackface at a time when anyone mindful of history, or even mildly conscious of contemporary American society outside the confines of a creepy college fraternity, understood it to be an act of social barbarism.

The Boston Globe reported that Warren gained no career benefit from her self-designation. “At every step of her remarkable rise in the legal profession, the people responsible for hiring her

saw her as a white woman,” the Globe reported.

Regarding the Texas bar form, Brian Beutler tweeted, “The fact that she made the claim on a form that was meant to be unlogged and confidential actually underscores her point that she identified as she did out of sincere belief.”

Warren is 69. Over the years, she has surely mentioned her Indian affinity many times—contributing recipes in the 1980s, for example, to “Pow Wow Chow: A Collection of Recipes from Families of the Five Civilized Tribes”—without social awkwardness or professional consequence.

Warren also grew up in Oklahoma, a state created from Indian Territory. “I think what Warren has done in identifying as American Indian—and particularly as a Cherokee—is very Oklahoma,” said Circe Sturm, author of “Becoming Indian: The Struggle over Cherokee Identity in the 21st Century.”

Blue-eyed Indians are too common to be political fodder in Oklahoma. “In Oklahoma, you have plenty of native people who look white but have native ancestry or tribal citizenship,” Sturm said in a telephone interview.

There was a time when Elvis Presley could grab a piece of “race music” and exploit it for fame and fortune in the white mainstream. Three decades ago, Warren perhaps thought she was respectfully identifying with a brutalized minority, or just imagining herself as the person she thought she was, or wanted to be. You didn’t need malicious intent, or a desire to game racial classifications, to want to stretch the bounds of whiteness.

But as nonwhite Americans have gained more political power, cultural appropriation, conscious or otherwise, has become increasingly fraught. Complicating matters, tribal identity is a political designation, and Cherokees are wary of granting inclusion to any Bill or Elizabeth who purports to have an ancestor somewhere.

Historically, whites generally had greater freedom to try on new identities, and explore new social arrangements. Racial minorities had their identities assigned, and “passing” beyond rigid definitions was a perilous exercise.

Now the rules are evolving. A once-free, or at least freer, range of white identity is gradually being fenced by consequences, just as consequences have bound racial minorities to identities for centuries. A white frontier is closing.

By **FRANCIS WILKINSON**

Bloomberg View

Francis Wilkinson writes editorials on politics and U.S. domestic policy for Bloomberg View. He was executive editor of the Week. He was previously a national affairs writer for Rolling Stone, a communications consultant and a political media strategist.



One of the chief institutions grappling with this transformation, and driving it, is the Democratic Party. As a woman, Warren has benefited from the party’s new openness to female power. But she’s being buffeted by crosswinds on race.

Republicans and much of the GOP-allied media, active or silent partners in the Trumpist campaign to sustain white political, social and economic power, are rarely as gleeful as when attacking liberals who struggle to conform to the emerging norms that conservatives subvert. (The case of GOP House leader Kevin McCarthy’s family, which has cashed in on dubious claims of Indian heritage, is curiously less scrutinized than Warren’s predicament.)

The mainstream news media, always eager to posit a Democratic counterpoint to the criminality and corruption swirling around Trump, may conclude that Warren’s Indian issue is an offense so grave that it rivals substandard email protocol. The Democratic Party itself, testing its surroundings with multiracial sensors, may conclude that it has enough high-quality alternatives to Warren that it can afford to leave a star player on the bench.

That would be a shame. Warren is well worth hearing from. But it may also be the high price of progress. Democrats, after all, are the only game in town. Republicans, seated in the whites-only section of the bleachers, hurling insults at the players on the field, won’t join in making social justice and empowerment a cause.

Being first movers into a multiracial, female-empowered century has given Democrats a strategic advantage and moral high ground. But the new terrain is often tough to navigate, as another quality politician, Senator Al Franken, discovered. The march forward can be unforgiving, leaving even good people behind.

Threat of US imprisonment won’t deter migrant mothers protecting their children

Three weeks ago I traveled to Dilley, Texas, to assist the hundreds of migrant mothers and young children detained at the South Texas Family Residential Center. This sprawling trailer jail was constructed in 2014 under the Obama administration to detain the growing number of families crossing the southern border and requesting asylum. The possibility of being imprisoned by the U.S. government did not deter these mothers from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, who are fleeing unrelenting violence from gangs, narcotics traffickers and their own abusive spouses.

I was volunteering with the Dilley Pro Bono Project. I met with asylum-seeking mothers to help prepare them for a “credible fear interview” with an asylum officer, which would determine if they could stay in the U.S. and apply for

protection. We volunteers tried to explain the complexities of asylum law to these mothers in minutes—what suffering mattered and what didn’t, which perpetrators our laws protected against, and which ones it didn’t. All the while, their toddlers fussed, cried, sneezed, coughed and dirtied their diapers. I always brought in a pen and paper in case their kids wanted to draw. Crayons were no longer allowed according to the guard because the “kids were drawing on everything and no one seemed to care.”

After prodding these mothers with endless questions and eliciting agonizing details they never wanted to share, I was left with one thought: None of these mothers had a choice. And this is why policies of deterrence will fail every time.

Even the most vicious deterrence policy—family separation comes to mind—cannot stop genuine refugees from seeking protection. Economic migrants, conversely, may be more inclined to weigh the risks and benefits of migration. The U.S. has seen a consistent decline in unlawful border crossings since 2000, with numbers correlated to the U.S. unemployment rate and thus job availability. However, the number of families attempting to enter the U.S. and expressing a fear of return does not follow this pattern. These families will continue to flee until the violence and lawlessness forcing their journey abates.

The Trump administration’s latest deterrence effort forces asylum seekers to remain in Mexico with limited or no access to counsel while immigration judges in the U.S. adjudicate their cases. The administration claims people will be permitted to enter for their hearings. This policy is an egregious derogation of our obligations to asylum seekers under U.S. and international law. When will the U.S. stop inventing new ways to tighten the screws on the world’s most vulnerable people? Like all the others, this new deterrence policy will fail. In the meantime, these asylum-seek-

By **MEG HOBBS**

The Baltimore Sun

Meg Hobbs is a senior attorney at the firm of Grossman Young & Hammond and was formerly a judicial law clerk to the Baltimore Immigration Court.



ing families will be victimized by new perpetrators and live in squalor for months or even years.

The only way to stem the flow of people fleeing persecution is to stop the persecution. The United States must dramatically shift its attention and resources to constructive engagement in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, implementing a Marshall Plan for the region. We should be partnering with Mexico—not to warehouse asylum seekers but to promote economic development, to invest in anti-corruption efforts and to bolster government protections against violence and organized crime.

This is not a far-flung fantasy. Engagement efforts are growing. But they need a groundswell of support and then time to make an impact. Until that happens, the U.S. government is legally and morally obligated to provide a fair, safe process to all asylum seekers here.

Throughout the detention center, there are signs in Spanish saying “Mothers Take Care of Your Children. They are Your Responsibility.” They struck me not just as irritating paternalism but painfully ironic. Take care of your children? These mothers fled persecution for their children, not in spite of their children. And until we address the root causes of migration, there is no deterrence policy that can stop them.

FACEBOOK’S

From Page 8






Apple’s policies.

Right now, Zuckerberg is laughing all the way to the bank. Despite the public outrage, Facebook’s earnings per share jumped 65 percent from a year ago. The social media company’s net profit for the last quarter totaled \$6.88 billion, a record profit for the company.

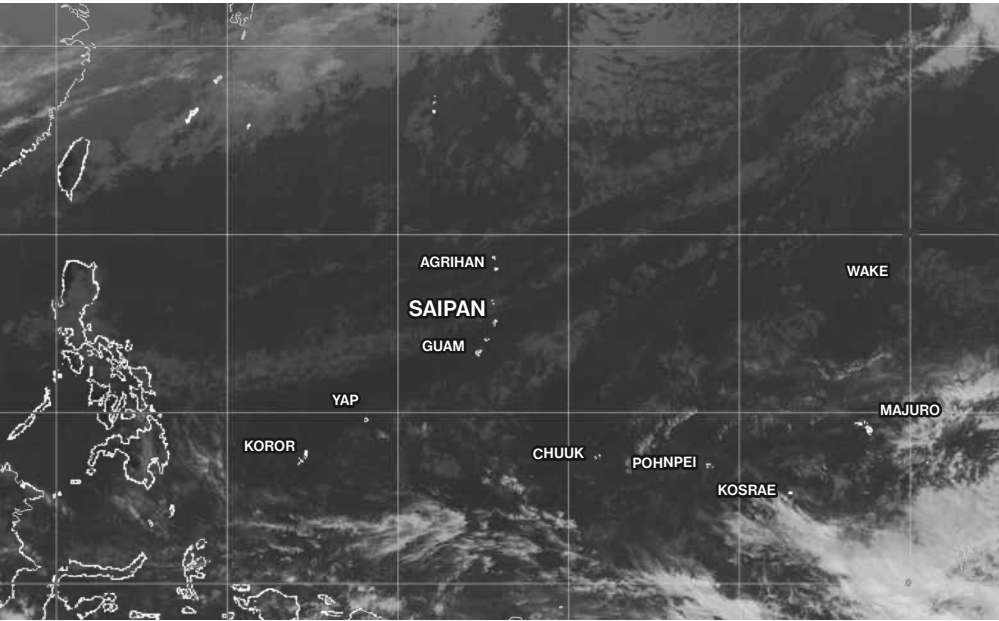
Zuckerberg’s actions prove that his public apologies are meaningless. Nevertheless, the United States remains the only major developed nation without fundamental online user protections. Congress shouldn’t wait another day to pass Khanna’s internet bill of rights and give users the basic privacy rights they deserve.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	76°	87°	76°	87°	76°	87°	76°	87°	76°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 10:47 AM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows a line of widely scattered showers west of Tinian and Saipan waters and patchy showers south of Guam waters. Otherwise, there are no showers within the Guam waters. The VAD wind profile indicates northeast winds of 18 to 22 knots just off the surface which increase to 23 to 27 knots through the lowest 5000 feet of the air, then turn easterly above that. The buoys reveal combined seas of 7 to 9 feet composed mainly of a small north swell, a larger east swell, and large east wind waves.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	84° / 76°	
Palau	Partly Cloudy	83° / 77°	
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Chuuk	Showers	85° / 78°	
Pohnpei	Showers	84° / 78°	
Kosrae	Showers	84° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Sunny	79° / 63°	
Beijing	Sunny	36° / 12°	
Hong Kong	Cloudy	75° / 68°	
Honolulu	Showers	74° / 66°	
London	Sunny	55° / 39°	
Los Angeles	Rain	62° / 52°	
Manila	Sunny	90° / 73°	
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	75° / 55°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	75° / 69°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	48° / 40°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	46° / 43°	
Paris	Mostly Sunny	54° / 30°	
Busan	Cloudy	50° / 43°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	61° / 37°	
Salem	Cloudy	66° / 50°	
San Francisco	Showers	53° / 47°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	37° / 21°	
Tokyo	Cloudy	39° / 34°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	56° / 47°	



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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:19 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.44	
8:06 AM	LOW TIDE	1.09	
1:51 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.78	
9:31 PM	LOW TIDE	0.03	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:42 AM	6:19 PM
Friday	6:41 AM	6:20 PM
Saturday	6:41 AM	6:20 PM
Sunday	6:40 AM	6:21 PM
Monday	6:40 AM	6:21 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:09 AM	12:56 PM
Friday	-	2:06 AM	1:49 PM
Saturday	-	3:06 AM	2:47 PM
Sunday	-	4:07 AM	3:49 PM
Monday	-	5:08 AM	4:54 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 21, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	Daily	7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
				7C3452	10:05pm	2:00am+1	1
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:55am	2, 6	3U8645	7:55pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:15am	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA182/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/174	10:30pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA105/183	4:45pm	9:40pm	2 via GUM	UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA105/183	4:45pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
				UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4 via GUM
UA105/159	4:45pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM	UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
				2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
				2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily



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'Bus stop jurisdiction remains unclear'

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System's school bus transportation system is a bit unclear on who has jurisdiction over bus stops in the CNMI but, with no clear mandate for now on who is in



charge of these stops, it is asking for the community's help in maintaining these bus stops for students.

In his presentation to the Rotary Club of Saipan at the Hyatt Regency Saipan last Tuesday, CNMI PSS Office of Pupil Transportation director Shawn San Nicolas said that, although they are unaware of who specifically has jurisdiction over bus stops in the CNMI, they need corporate donations and help in maintaining these bus stops on behalf of public school students.

San Nicolas said that students have refrained from using these bus stops over the years due to the lack of maintenance. He even noted that the stops reportedly smelled foul and were full of trash.

"We have an adopt-a-bus

shelter program," San Nicolas said. "We have a lot of businesses that have adopted some of our bus shelters, but we still have many bus shelters that have not been adopted," he said, adding that those were the stops within the villages—the ones most used by the 3,000 total students that take the school bus daily.

"The roads are busy. If the students are not in a structurally sound bus shelter, they are in harm's way from all the passing cars because anything can happen," he said.

He noted that the bus stops are even more essential to students since Super Typhoon Yutu forced some PSS schools to undergo double sessions and shared campuses.

San Nicolas reported that PSS and the Legislature are

currently in talks as to who should have jurisdiction over the bus stops.

"Because no one really knows who is responsible, it tends to be neglected," said San Nicolas, noting that there are times when students would rather wait for the school bus under the hot sun or under the rain.

He said his office had been getting calls daily about the maintenance of the bus stops. His go-to response? Asking the Department of Public Works' Division of Parks and Recreation, or even precinct representatives, for help.

"...We couldn't find who specifically has jurisdiction over these bus stops," he said.

Despite this, San Nicolas noted that his office has taken the initiative to maintain them.

SIS student named scholar award candidate

Saipan International School's Michael Lee has been selected as a candidate for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. Lee is also the CNMI's only finalist for the National Merit Scholarship award.



Lee

The purpose of this program is to recognize and honor some

of the nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Each year, since 1964, up to 161 students are named as presidential scholars out of a pool of over 4,500 candidates. To be eligible, students must be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent U.S. resident, have an ex-

ceptional SAT or ACT score, and be invited to apply. If se-

lected as a scholar, students receive an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in June and are presented the U.S. Presidential Scholars medalion at a ceremony sponsored by the White House. Scholars meet important national and international figures; discuss current national and international issues; attend recitals, receptions, and ceremonies held in their honor; and visit area museums and monuments. (PR)

Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. (Mobil) is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation – the world's largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, which holds an industry-leading inventory of resources and is one of the world's largest integrated refiners, marketers of petroleum products and chemical manufacturers. This is your opportunity to join this dynamic company and become part of the team that thrives in a fast-paced, controls-oriented environment as:

Aviation Operations Superintendent

Job Description:

The Aviation Operations Superintendent is responsible for supervising the Aviation Operations at the Saipan airport Depot and assisting the Aviation Operations Manager in the safe and proper handling and storage and movement of aviation products at the airport. The Superintendent is also responsible for dispensing aviation fuel into aircraft, assists in keeping the facility and personnel in compliance with Mobil Aviation's systems controls and guidelines, Joint Inspection Group (JIG) standards, ExxonMobil Joint Inspection Group and optimizing the efficiency of all assets at the facility.

Location:

- Saipan Aviation Depot, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Leads, executes and complies with Mobil's Operations integrity management systems, controls, policies and guidelines by using Mobil procedures, aviation manuals, follows Joint Inspection Group standards and procedures and adhering to local and federal government regulations and industry standards.
- Ensures that only clean, dry and on-specification fuel is delivered to aircraft safely and efficiently.
- Interface with the refuellers and contractors to perform facility or equipment maintenance and repair to improve operations' safety and efficiency in the most economical manner.
- Oversees all aspects of aviation products, assets and materials and ensures that they are used in a safe and efficient manner.
- Responsible for personnel adherence to required levels of performance on assigned duties during the shift. Approves and implements actions on equipment maintenance and repairs recommended by refuellers, contractors and engineering but not limited to.
- Reports the current developments and other information pertaining to the operations and performance of the facility to the Aviation Operations Manager.
- Other administrative management duties as required.

Qualifications / Skills required:

- Supervisory experience in safe petroleum handling, storage and movement or related field
- Understanding of aviation and federal regulations as applicable to petroleum handling, storage and distribution
- Must be able to work shifts based on a 24-hour work day, work extended hours, weekends and holidays
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to communicate both verbally and in writing

Preference will be given to candidates with the following skills:

- Experience in aviation operations
- Previous experience in petroleum handling and storage
- Previous experience in petroleum industry

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before February 20, 2019 to the following:

Attention to:
Upper Pacific Islands Aviation Operations
Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc.
P.O. Box 500367 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Fax: (670) 236-8190
Correspondence Email: maria.kemp@exxonmobil.com

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(2) COOK

Minimum of one (1) year related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR

Must have at least three (3) years related work experience in Food & Beverage service, two (2) years of supervisory experience, plus one (1) year relevant work experience in coordinating events; Supervises employees engaged in serving foods in restaurants and maintaining cleanliness of food service areas and equipment; must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR

Minimum of two (2) years housekeeping supervisor experience required (minimum 300-room hotel). Motivated self-starter with the ability to clean rooms as required. Responsible for checking up to 70 rooms per shift. Must have the ability to bend, lift, carry & move items weighing 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long hours. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) LAUNDRY ATTENDANT

Minimum of three (3) months of work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT

Minimum of three (3) to six (6) months of work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(6) ROOM ATTENDANT

Minimum of one (1) year of experience as a room attendant for a hotel. Motivated, self-starter responsible for cleaning up to 18 rooms per shift. Must have the ability to bend, lift, carry & move items weighing 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long excessive hours. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(6) WAITSTAFF

Minimum of three (3) months of work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, February 28th 2019.

PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance.

Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.

PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MYPros honors three artists' messages of 'hope'

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Young Professionals presented its "Hope is Here to Stay" award and cash prizes to three more artists last Saturday, following the completion of the group's Super Typhoon Yutu recovery mission.

The organization's "Hope is Here to Stay" award honors artists whose artwork promotes community hope in the wake of the widespread devastation of Super Typhoon Yutu last October.

The group's first honoree was Mina Benavente who was presented with her award back in January.

The additional artists are Peter Aldan, Kimberly Mendiola, and Yolani Camacho. All three artists, after completing their murals at the MYPros Disaster Recovery Center, were awarded cash prizes of \$1,500 last Saturday.

Aldan, Mendiola, Camacho, and Benavente all painted murals of what they think hope represents.

Mendiola described her mural as a way to portray people who came from trauma. She wanted to create a painting with the children that would deliver the message of the devastation of Yutu and how the community



Children and teens affected by Super Typhoon Yutu express their feelings through art last Saturday as the Marianas Young Professionals concluded its Super Typhoon Yutu recovery mission.

can come out of it with hope.

"From looking at this wall, you're going to see that there's a crowd of people in black and transparent silhouettes and they're all together. These are people who experienced trauma and, as they walk toward the rainbow that's pictured in the middle, they start to become colorful, they start to inherit colors. That's the hope that is being instilled in them through community work, through people, through talk-

ing," she said.

Camacho said her piece is about allowing children to express positive thoughts.

"This signifies positivity and letting the kids put in their positive thoughts throughout the whole disaster. Instead of focusing on the negative, we want them to have an outlet for positivity. I painted it white and the idea is to have them come in and fill them in because a lot of them had trouble doing it on their own so I laid

the framework and had them fill it in," she said.

To emphasize its message of hope, MYPros brought in children and teens and gave them the opportunity to work alongside the artists to complete the murals to give them a means to express themselves, following the trauma of Super Typhoon Yutu.

According to Aldan, the vision of MYPros is to create a place of hope that the community could visit, which is why

MYPros executive director G. Van Gils got the artists to paint hope-inspired murals.

"G. had a vision that, after the storm, with all the stress and the trauma and everything, he wanted a place for hope, a space and a place for hope, so one of the ideas was to have us

as artists come and create art, using art as an uplifting way and getting the kids involved in making the art. That way, it gives them a sense of ownership. ... We're trying to use art as an outlet...to create a space that feels welcoming and inviting," he said.

Lawsuit over green card delay dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court dismissed with prejudice on Tuesday a lawsuit filed by a man and his daughter against officials of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services over an alleged four-year delay in adjudicating her green card petition for him.

Dismissal with prejudice means Chen Chien-Li and his U.S. citizen daughter can no longer re-file the lawsuit.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed the case after the parties decided to drop the matter.

Joseph H. Horey, counsel for Chien-Li and his daughter, and assistant U.S. attorney Jessica F. Wesseling, counsel for DHS and USCIS officials, signed the agreement to drop the case.

Horey and Wesseling did

not indicate the reason for the dismissal.

Last month, DHS, asked the court to hold the proceedings in this case in light of the then-federal government shutdown. Manglona approved the request.

Chien-Li is a Taiwanese national who lives in the CNMI. His daughter, a U.S. citizen, lives in New York.

The father and daughter sued DHS and USCIS district director for District 26 David Gulick, USCIS director L. Francis Cissna, and U.S. DHS Secretary Kirstjen M. Nielsen, for alleged violation of the Administrative Act.

The plaintiffs asked the court to compel USCIS to adjudicate their pending petition and application.

On Dec. 8, 2014, the daughter filed with USCIS an I-130 petition on behalf of her father, Chien-Li, seeking to have him classified as an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen based on their family relationship.

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Registered Nurses: (09)

- Must pass NCLEX-RN with current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to two years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English language skills-proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service training with Baxter Phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system

Health Technologists and Technicians: (4)

- Certificate from Junior College/Technician School in healthcare related field
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Three years hemodialysis experienced-preferred
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

Maintenance Worker, Machinery: (02)

- Must be able to perform task which may at first glance not appear difficult but required a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain system
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities, safety & life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency text for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques, proper plumbing techniques when working with pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with pvc
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

Maintenance and Repair: (04)

- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing and security systems
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions
- Installs solar panels with experience in the maintenance of pv models
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- High school graduate or equivalent

Janitors and Cleaners: (02)

- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, buffers, etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste and other disposable materials
- Must handle various cleaning solvents and chemicals that is required by Medicare
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, windows, etc.
- Empty trash containers daily
- Clean and mop bathrooms daily. Mop all corridor floors, lobby and others floors daily
- Report any needed repairs immediately
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients' areas and lobby
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping and post occupancy
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner at the business office, Dr.'s office, accounting office, dietician and clinic manager's office
- Must be able to work flexible hours
- Must have own transportation

Interested applicant must submit resume or pick up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc. in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on February 18, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Registered Nurse: (03)

- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing
- At least three to six years' experience
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Medical Records and Health Information Technician: (01)

- At least over six years experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedures and diagnosis
- College graduate
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spreadsheet and general accounting skills.

Health Technologist and Technician: (02)

- At least six years experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiology Technology
- Must be over six years experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/knowledge with practice partner software in electronic health records usage
- Licensed by Medical Professional Licensing Board, CNMI

Groundskeeping Worker/General Yard Maintenance: (01)

- At least two years preferred skills and experience
- Experience in assisting in building construction/renovation
- Maintaining the interior and exterior of the clinic in a neat and orderly condition
- Maintaining of plants in transplanting and fertilizing
- Assist in cleaning of clinic air conditionings
- Be flexible in assisting in other related maintenance duties
- Be flexible with time schedule

Computer System Analysts: (01)

- Minimum of three to five years of work related skills, knowledge or experience
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintain all of company computer systems to include computer hardware, software, computer network and advance server skills
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software
- Oversees administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system
- Building maintenance repair, electronic records and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application or resume will be on February 18, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

Nation

Trump not 'thrilled' with border deal but leaning toward it

WASHINGTON (AP)—Under mounting pressure from his own party, President Donald Trump appeared to be grudgingly leaning toward accepting an agreement Tuesday that would head off a threatened second government shutdown but provide just a fraction of the money he's been demanding for his Mexican border wall.

Trump said he would need more time to study the plan, but he also declared he was not expecting another shutdown this weekend when funding for parts of the government would run out. He strongly signaled he planned to scrounge up additional dollars for the wall by raiding other federal coffers to deliver on the signature promise of his presidential campaign.

"I can't say I'm happy. I can't say I'm thrilled," Trump said of the proposed deal. "But the wall is getting built, regardless. It doesn't matter because we're doing other things beyond what we're talking about here."

Accepting the deal, worked out by congressional negotiators from both parties, would be a disappointment for a

president who has repeatedly insisted he needs \$5.7 billion for a barrier along the U.S.-Mexico border, saying the project is paramount for national security. Trump turned down a similar deal in December, forcing the 35-day partial shutdown that left hundreds of thousands of federal workers without paychecks and Republicans reeling. There is little appetite in Washington for a repeat.

Lawmakers tentatively agreed Monday night to a deal that would provide nearly \$1.4 billion for border barriers and keep the government funded for the rest of the fiscal year, which ends on Sept. 30.

The agreement would allow 55 miles (88 kilometers) of new fencing—constructed using existing designs such as metal slats—but far less than the 215 miles (345 kilometers) the White House demanded in December. The fencing would be built in Texas' Rio Grande Valley.

Full details were not expected to be released until Wednesday as lawmakers worked to translate their ver-

bal agreement into legislation. But Republican leaders urged Trump to sign on.

"I hope he signs the bill," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, who joined other GOP leaders in selling it as a necessary compromise that represented a major concession from Democrats.

Appropriations Committee Chairman Richard Shelby, R-Ala., expressed optimism Trump would be on board.

"We believe from our dealings with them and the latitude they've given us, they will support it," he said. "We certainly hope so."

Others were less upbeat. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, who traveled with the president to a rally in Cornyn's home state Monday night, said, "My impression flying back with him from El Paso last night is that he thinks it's pretty thin gruel."

A presidential rejection of the deal could plunge Congress into a new crisis, as lawmakers have no clear Plan B. They need to pass some kind of funding bill to avoid another shutdown at midnight Fri-



Trump

day and have worked to avoid turning to another short-term bill that would only prolong the border debate.

Speaking at a Cabinet meeting, Trump said of a possible shutdown: "I don't think it's going to happen."

Still, he made clear that, if he does sign on to the deal, he is strongly considering supplementing it by moving money from what he described as less important areas of government.

"We have a lot of money in this country and we're using some of that money—a small percentage of that money—to build the wall, which we desperately need," he said.

That could be more difficult than he made it sound, facing challenges in Congress or federal court or both.

The White House has long

been laying the groundwork for Trump to use executive action to bypass Congress and divert money into wall construction. He could declare a national emergency or invoke other executive authority to tap funds including money set aside for military construction, disaster relief and counterdrug efforts.

Previewing that strategy last week, acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney said, "We'll take as much money as you can give us, and then we will go off and find the money someplace else—legally—in order to secure that southern barrier." He said more than \$5.7 billion in available funds had been identified.

McConnell, who had previously said he was troubled by the concept of declaring a national emergency, said Tues-

day that Trump "ought to feel free to use whatever tools he can legally use to enhance his effort to secure the border."

The framework now under consideration contains plenty to anger lawmakers on both the right and left—more border fencing than many Democrats would like and too little for conservative Republicans—but its authors praised it as a genuine compromise that would keep the government open and allow everyone to move on.

Trump was briefed on the plan Tuesday by Shelby and sounded more optimistic after the meeting. "Looking over all aspects knowing that this will be hooked up with lots of money from other sources," he tweeted, adding, "Regardless of Wall money, it is being built as we speak!"

National debt hits new milestone, topping \$22 trillion

WASHINGTON (AP)—The national debt has passed a new milestone, topping \$22 trillion for the first time.

The Treasury Department's daily statement showed Tuesday that total outstanding public debt stands at \$22.01 trillion. It stood at \$19.95 trillion when President Donald Trump took office on Jan. 20, 2017.

The debt figure has been accelerating since the passage of Trump's \$1.5 trillion tax cut in December 2017 and action by Congress last year to increase spending on domestic and military programs.

The national debt is the total of the annual budget

deficits. The Congressional Budget Office projects that this year's deficit will be \$897 billion — a 15.1 percent increase over last year's imbalance of \$779 billion. In the coming years, the CBO forecasts that the deficit will keep rising, top \$1 trillion annually beginning in 2022 and never drop below \$1 trillion through 2029. Much of the increase will come from mounting costs to fund Social Security and Medicare as the vast generation of baby boomers continue to retire.

The Trump administration contends that its tax cuts will eventually pay for themselves by generating faster economic growth. That pro-

jection is disputed by many economists.

Despite the rising levels of federal debt, many economists say they think the risks remain slight and point to current interest rates, which remain unusually low by historical standards. Still, some budget experts warn that ever-rising federal debt poses substantial risks for the government because it could make it harder to respond to a financial crisis through tax cuts or spending increases.

Michael Peterson, head of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, says "our growing national debt matters because it threatens the economic future of every American."

ACROSS THE NATION

Notorious drug lord Joaquin 'El Chapo' Guzman convicted


NEW YORK (AP)—Mexico's most notorious drug lord, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, was convicted Tuesday of running an industrial-scale smuggling operation after a three-month trial packed with Hollywood-style tales of grisly killings, political payoffs, cocaine hidden in jalapeno cans, jewel-encrusted guns and a naked escape with his mistress through a tunnel. Guzman listened to a drumbeat of guilty verdicts on drug and conspiracy charges that could put the 61-year-old escape artist behind bars for decades in a maximum-security U.S. prison selected to thwart another one of the breakouts that made him a folk hero in his native country. A jury whose members' identities were kept secret as

a security measure reached a verdict after deliberating six days in the expansive case. They sorted through what authorities called an "avalanche" of evidence gathered since the late 1980s that Guzman and his murderous Sinaloa drug cartel made billions in profits by smuggling tons of cocaine, heroin, meth and marijuana into the U.S. As the judge read the verdict, Guzman stared at the jury, and his wife watched the scene, both with resignation in their faces. When the jurors were discharged and Guzman stood to leave the courtroom, the couple traded thumbs-ups.

California governor scales back high-speed train


SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California Gov. Gavin Newsom declared Tuesday there "isn't a path" for completing the state's plan for a

high-speed rail line between San Francisco and Los Angeles, yet his office insisted he is fully committed to building such a project. Newsom, delivering his first State of the State address, said he'd shift his focus to completing just a 171-mile segment of the line already under construction in the state's Central Valley. The project is key to the economic vitality of the state's agricultural heartland, he said. A high-speed rail line linking Los Angeles to San Francisco was the goal when voters approved a ballot measure in 2008. The roughly 520-mile line initially was estimated to cost \$33 billion and was pegged for completion in 2020. Officials eventually hoped to connect the line to San Diego and Sacramento. Subsequent estimates more than doubled the cost to \$77 billion and pushed the timeline to 2033.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-19-012

ISLAND WIDE WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of installing new service saddles, corporation stops, PVC service lines from the CUC water main to the meter, replacing defective water meters, installing new service laterals and new water meters, properly sizing existing service lines, installing a water meter on existing CUC service lines without a meter, relocating existing CUC water meters from private property to public easement, reconfiguring the orientation of water meters to easily identify customers, removing existing manifold systems, and as required, installing new service lines from the meter to the house plumbing. It may also be required to connect existing service lines to a new meter and/or house piping.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **February 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 21, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC's Purchasing Administrator, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer - via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Procurement Administrator

World

Australia to reopen island detention camp after refugee bill

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The Australian government said Wednesday it would reopen a mothballed island detention camp in anticipation of a new wave of asylum seekers arriving by boat after Parliament passed legislation that would give sick asylum seekers easier access to mainland hospitals.

The Christmas Island immigration detention camp, south of Jakarta, Indonesia, was a favorite target of people smugglers who brought asylum seekers from Asia, Africa and the Middle East in rickety boats from Indonesian ports before the trade virtually stopped in recent years.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said a security committee of his cabinet agreed to reopen the camp on the advice of senior security officials.

The decision was made before the Senate passed legislation 36 votes to 34 that would allow doctors instead of bureaucrats to decide which asylum seekers on camps on the Pacific island nations of Papua New Guinea and Nauru can fly to Australia for hospital treatment.

Morrison's conservative government argues that the bill, passed 75 to 74 by the House of Representatives on Tuesday, will undermine Australia's tough refugee policy. The policy banishes asylum

seekers who attempt to reach Australia by boat to the Pacific island camps in a bid to deter other asylum seekers from making the perilous voyage.

"My job now is to ensure that the boats don't come," Morrison told reporters. "My job now is to do everything in my power and the power of the government to ensure what the Parliament has done to weaken our border does not result in boats

coming to Australia."

The legislation demonstrates the government's weak hold on power and will put asylum seeker policy at the forefront of campaigning ahead of elections that Morrison wants to hold in May. He has ruled out calling a snap election on the refugee issue.

Morrison said he would repeal the "foolish law" if his government were re-elected.

Australian governments

rarely lose votes in the House of Representatives, where parties need a majority to form an administration.

Legislation has only been passed in the House against a government's will in recent decades 1929, 1941, 1962 and 2013.

The ruling coalition lost its single-seat majority when former Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull quit politics after he was deposed by his party col-

leagues in August. Another lawmaker has since quit the government as part of the bitter fallout over the leadership change.

Refugee advocates applauded the law that they regard as a more humanitarian approach toward asylum seekers.

The Senate passed similar amendments on medical evacuations despite ruling party objections on the last day Parliament sat last year.

Maduro challenger plans caravans for US aid to Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Opposition leader Juan Guaido said Tuesday that he will try to run caravans of badly needed food and medicine into Venezuela but won't start for nearly two weeks, a timeline that threatens to deflate momentum toward unseating entrenched President Nicolas Maduro.

Surrounded by thousands of cheering supporters, Guaido set Feb. 23 as the date for bringing in the badly needed U.S. assistance that has been warehoused on the Colombian border since last week, but he provided few details.

The 11-day wait was sure to be a disappointment for Venezuelans desperate for the supplies. More than 2 million people have fled the country's soaring hyperinflation and severe food and medical shortages over the last two years. The minimum wage, which most Venezuelans earn, amounts to less than \$6 a month, and it is common to see people scouring garbage for food in the streets of Caracas.

"Right now, I'm going to give this order to the armed forces: Allow in the humanitarian aid. That's an order," Guaido told the mass of people gathered in Caracas.

Despite the authoritative-sounding assertion, there has been little evidence that the allegiance of the security forces—the country's key powerbroker—has swung behind Guaido, a virtually unknown lawmaker until last month, when he took the helm of the

National Assembly.

Guaido provided few details on how the aid would be brought in from the Colombian border city of Cucuta, except to call for mobilizing caravans of Venezuelans—a daring and potentially dangerous maneuver that could lead to more violent confrontation with the security forces.

At least 40 people have already been killed in clashes since the 35-year-old lawmaker declared himself interim president Jan. 23.

Jose Manuel Olivares, Guaido's representative in helping lead the aid mission from Colombia, acknowledged the risk, saying he and other lawmakers plan to be at the front of the Feb. 23 push to get the aid in, even if it means risking their lives.

"We have never told people to do something we are not willing to do," he said. "We're going to be there with people taking the risk."

Diego Moya-Ocampos, a Venezuela analyst with the London-based consulting firm IHS Global Insight, said Guaido has gained broad support beyond the middle classes and deep into Venezuela's slums, once a stronghold of the ruling socialist party.

But that hasn't translated into support from the military and security forces, who Moya-Ocampos said continue to distrust the opposition and fear being held accountable for criminal activity and human rights violations if the regime changes, despite Guaido's offer of amnesty.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

+ Maria Magdalena Manibusan Takai Camacho

"Neng" or "Maggie"
Jan. 1, 1964 – Feb 1, 2019



In her new life, she now joins:

Son: **Francisco T. Camacho**
 Father: **Jose L. Takai**
 Stepfather: **Efrain C. Tudela**
 Francisco P. Eliptico
 Sister: **Evelyn Frances Manibusan Takai**
 Maternal Grandparents: **Heronimo P. & Candelaria N. Manibusan**
 Paternal Grandparents: **Jose D. & Ana L. Takai**
 Parents-In-Law: **Gregorio T. & Elizabeth B. Camacho**
 In-Laws: **Juan B. Camacho/ Consolacion C. Camacho & family**
 Pedro B. Camacho
 Kirsten T. Techur

Her spirit and memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Mother: **Antonia Manibusan Tudela**
 Husband: **Francisco Blanco Camacho**
 Children & Spouses: **Antoinette Elizabeth T. Camacho & Salvato Hesus (Rieyanna Maeleen, Palani Jezthor)**
 Francisco T. Camacho, Jr. & Loleen Tomokane (Erveenah Franceen)
 Ruleiyana Franzeen T. Camacho
 Vanessa S. Camacho & Children
 Dennis S. Camacho & Family
 Ryan S. Camacho & Family

Brothers, Sisters and Children: **+Evelyn M. Takai** (Caroline S. & Monte Pladevega, Stephanie S. & Anthony Hocog [Tiffanie]; Nikita T. Hofschneider)
 Joseph M. & Vivian C. Takai (Michelle, Jovi, Britney)
 Michael M. & Maria M. Takai (Agnes, Breyandel, Deltona)
 Patrick M. Takai and Juanet Camacho (Brittany, Christopher, Paethon, Patrick Jr., Christopher Ryan, Raymond Jr. Raynette, Rayven, Reina, Rachel)
 Gloria T. & Michael K. Techur (Ashley, Kortney, Myles, Leeani)
 Frankie Manibusan Eliptico
 Camron Manibusan Tudela
 Luis B. Camacho & +Ursula F. Camacho/Susan Camacho & family
 Daniel B. & Marge Camacho & family
 Delfina C. & Joaquin N. Santos & family

She will also be in the hearts and thoughts of many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, godchildren, and friends.

Holy rosary is offered nightly at 6pm at the residence of Frank B. Camacho in Federal Way, Washington. Mass of Intention is offered at San Vicente Church, Saipan, daily at 6:00pm (on Saturday and Sunday, Mass will be at 5:30pm).

Funeral services will be held on Monday, Feb. 18, 2019. Her remains will be transported from the Borja Funeral Home Divine Mercy Chapel at 7:30am to the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso and public viewing will follow upon arrival. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by interment service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Un Dangkulo Na Si Yu-us Ma'ase
THE FAMILY

Life & Style

Win or lose at the Oscars, Glenn Close is loving the moment

NEW YORK (AP)—Glenn Close stands doubled over laughing in the doorway to her downtown Manhattan apart-

ment while her loyal white Havanese, Pip, circles an arriving reporter.

It's star time for both. Close,

among the most accomplished performers never to win an Oscar, may finally break through with "The Wife," in which, ironically, she plays a deferential spouse (to an acclaimed author, played by Jonathan Pryce) who has been long overlooked. The never-nominated Pip has developed his own following, thanks in part to an appearance on "The View." The dog's Instagram account, under the name "Sir Pippin of Beanfield," is up to 3,400 followers.

Inside, Close hands the reporter a bottle of red wine to open as she recounts how

hours earlier, while walking Pip in a park, a lady stopped her to relate her own story of being held back in her profession by a man. These are the kinds of stories Close has heard a lot since



Close

"The Wife" came out and since she gave a show-stopping acceptance speech at the Golden Globes where she spoke movingly about how her mother sublimated herself to Close's father, a prominent surgeon.

"Another woman crossing

the street was like, 'I love you, Glenn!'" says Close. "People down in the pharmacy, they're all cheering me on."

Seemingly everyone knows that Close, 71, has emerged as the best actress front-runner after early buzz favored Lady Gaga for "A Star is Born." "The Wife" may be a modest independent film (\$9 million at the box office, and still playing six months after opening), but the moment feels finely tailored to Close, the most-

nominated living actor never to win an Oscar.

What would an Academy Award mean to her? She pauses.

"It would mean a lot but I wouldn't want it to be a pity Oscar because I've been an actress for 45 years," says Close, whose previous honors include three Tony awards, three Emmys and three Globes. "People have been going back and looking at my basic body of work and the six times I lost and what those roles were. So I can't pretend it's just for 'The Wife.' But I feel like everybody's rooting for me."

George Clooney compares Markle coverage to Princess Di

LOS ANGELES

(AP)—George Clooney is frustrated by the way the media is treating Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, comparing it to how the media covered Princess Diana.



Clooney

Clooney told reporters the Meghan is "a woman who is seven months pregnant and she has been pursued and vilified and chased in the same way that Diana was and it's history repeating itself."

Diana died in a car crash while being pursued by paparazzi in 1997.

Clooney and his wife attended the former Meghan Markle's wedding to Diana's son, Prince Harry, last year.

Clooney made the comments at the Television Critics Association conference in Pasadena, California. He is promoting his upcoming Hulu series "Catch-22."

CBS 'Big Bang Theory' has season high as end nears

NEW YORK (AP) — As the time approaches to say goodbye to Sheldon, Amy, Leonard, Penny and the gang, the CBS comedy "The Big Bang Theory" hit a season high in popularity last week.

The 14.2 million viewers who tuned in to Thursday's episode will surely be topped, since television's most popular comedy calls it quits after 12 seasons this spring.

Not everyone gets to go out on top, and the cast and crew of "The Big Bang Theory" gathered last week for a celebratory ceremony. The Burbank, California, studio on the Warner Bros. lot where the show is filmed was dedicated to the comedy. While there for a champagne toast, creator

Chuck Lorre credited the crew for never "mailing it in" during 12 years.

The affection underlying all of the characters' relationships, even if they aren't very good at expressing it, is something that viewers can sense, Lorre said.

"They're not blood relatives but they behave like a family," he said. "That's aspirational. That's what we all want."

The Lorre-created spinoff, "Young Sheldon," was the second most-watched comedy of last week, also with a season high in viewers, the Nielsen company said. So that bodes well for the character popularized by Jim Parsons to continue long after Parsons has stopped portraying him.

CHICAGO (AP)—

Jussie Smollett on Tuesday said he redacted some information from his phone before giving it to Chicago police investigating a reported attack on the "Empire" actor in order

to protect the privacy of contacts and people who are not relevant to the attack.

Smollett's representatives issued a statement a day after police said the heavily redacted phone records he turned over to detectives this week were insufficient for a criminal investigation.

The statement is the latest in a back-and-forth between Smollett and police since he reported the attack in downtown Chicago on Jan. 29. Police have made no arrests and said they have found no surveillance



Smollett

video that shows the attack. They have released video of two people in the area at the time who they said were persons of interest.

"Jussie is the victim here, which has been stated by the Superintendent of Police," the statement said. "Jussie has voluntarily provided his phone records from within an hour of the attack and given multiple statements to police."

But Chicago police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said Monday that the phone records turned over by Smollett are in a heavily redacted document file and the records from the manager Smollett says he was talking to when the attack occurred were a screenshot of phone calls. He says the re-

cords aren't sufficient for an investigation.

Smollett's statement said he

had good reasons for turning over limited information.

"Any redacted information

Smollett says he redacted phone files to protect privacy

Trump says he wasn't aware of tabloid's Bezos investigation

WASHINGTON

(AP)—President Donald Trump says he was unaware the owner of the National Enquirer, American Media Inc., had been investigating Amazon CEO Jeff



Bezos

Bezos.

The Trump-friendly tabloid

has a history of trying to help him. It acknowledged paying \$150,000 to Playboy centerfold Karen McDougal for the rights to her story about an alleged affair with Trump. The company then buried the story

until after the 2016 election.

The Enquirer published a story last month about Bezos having an extramarital affair. Trump responded with a mocking tweet days later. It's not unusual

for him to lash out at The Washington Post owner.

Bezos hired private investigators to learn how the Enquirer obtained risqué texts.

Trump was asked Tuesday whether he was aware of AMI's investigation and responded, "No. No, I wasn't."

Lovers aren't only ones who celebrate Valentine's Day

DEAR ABBY: Valentine's Day is here and, to be honest, I don't know much about St. Valentine. So I wonder if he meant the day to only be about lovers.

Is there any reason I shouldn't send valentines to my friends? Why should anyone feel bad because they're not "with" someone? If you love and/or care about a person, can't you send them a box of chocolates, a card or some flowers? It seems to me this should be a time of year you can let a buddy know you appreciate him, or let your brother, cousin, sister, neighbor or co-worker know you care.

It doesn't have to be mushy. Happy Valentine's Day to you, Abby!

TIM IN SYRACUSE

DEAR TIM: Valentine's Day may have started as a celebration of romance and romantic love, but it has broadened to acknowledge other kinds of love and affection. There's absolutely no reason you cannot celebrate the way you described.

Happy Valentine's Day to YOU, Tim, and to all my readers, for whom I have great appreciation and affection.

DEAR ABBY: My brother is a 59-year-old widower. He has dated a few women over the years, and he's very afraid of being alone.

The woman he is with now has made it clear that she is with him because he can provide financial security for her. She's pushing him to move in together and get married, but only after he sells his house and buys a new one. She said she could never

live there because his deceased wife lived there. However, she is unable to contribute anything financially, so this would all be out of his pocket. He looks past all of this.

I have told him I'm worried about her using him for his money, but he doesn't want to hear it. How can I get through to him?

WISE SISTER IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR SISTER: You obviously can't. However, his lawyer might be able to deliver that message more effectively than you. This is why you should STRONGLY encourage him to have a talk with his lawyer before he sells his house or formalizes his arrangement with this lady, who has made her objectives crystal clear.

DEAR ABBY: My father passed away after a long illness four months ago. I lived in the same building as my parents, but a different apartment. (I still do.)

Obviously, I encounter other tenants in the public areas of the building. Since my father's death, most of them have asked me how my mother is doing. However, no one has ever asked me how I am doing. Frankly, it's very hurtful. Dad was getting hospice care at home, so I experienced his decline and finally the loss. Why does no one care to offer me any words of sympathy?

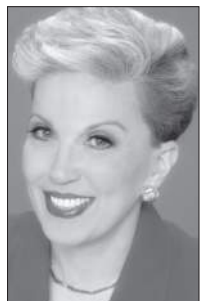
STILL GRIEVING

DEAR STILL GRIEVING: When there is a death,

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



many people are uncomfortable. They don't mean to be insensitive; they simply don't know what to say to the grieving relatives.

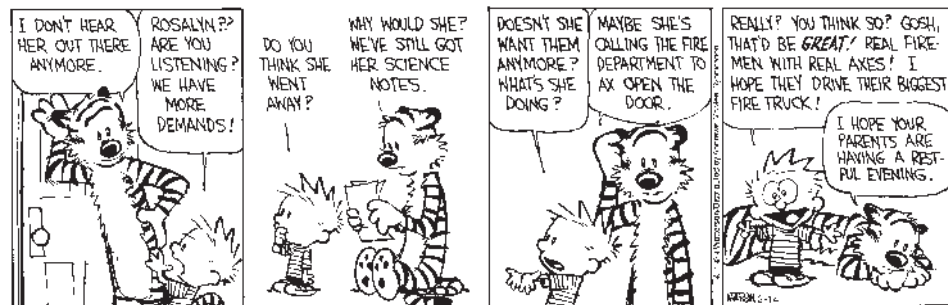
I assume that your mother and father are/were elderly. The death of a spouse after many decades of marriage can be so traumatic that the partner goes into a decline. Your neighbors may assume that because you are younger and stronger, that you are more resilient and therefore are doing fine. Please don't hold the fact that they haven't asked how you are doing against them.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbook-let Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

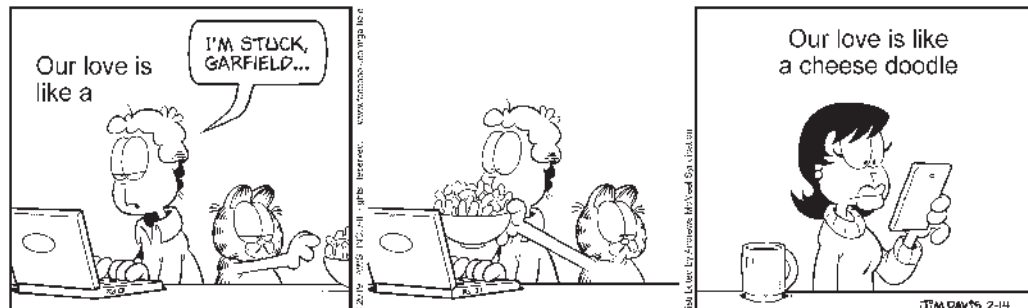
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



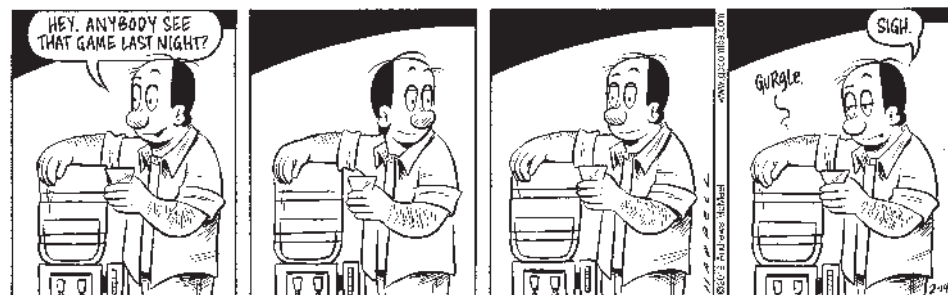
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Arrive-derci —"

5 Jazzy style

8 Wild guess

12 Slender

13 Piercing tool

14 Brownish purple

15 In — veritas

16 Corp. boss

17 Desertlike

18 No-where-sville

20 Saint Patrick's Day event

22 Hide-hair insert

23 Nine-digit ID

24 En-grossed

27 Promptly

32 Wedding words

33 Expert

34 Granada gold

35 "Wonder Woman" actress

DOWN

1 Answer an invite

2 Hodge-podge

3 Behave

4 Quantity

5 Scenic route, often

6 Have bills

7 Fall into a chair

8 Meager

9 Puccini opera

10 Battery fluid

11 Elliot's "Adam —"

19 Rejection

21 Bat wood

24 Predeter-

25 Okla-homa city

26 Bikini pattern

28 Sgt., for one

29 Tied down

30 Mouths (Lat.)

31 Playpen item

36 Trattoria desserts

37 Candle count

38 Refuses to pay

41 Symbol of strength

42 Juanita's home

43 Swinging joints?

44 Drive — window

46 Wife of Jacob

47 Diminutive suffix

48 Burpee buy

51 Novelist Rand

Solution time: 24 mins.

S	I	M	I	T	A	B	S	W	A	G
O	M	E	N	T	I	R	E	W	A	L
W	H	I	T	E	S	E	A	U	R	G
S	C	N	A	R	K	A	N	S	A	S
C	R	A	M	S	E	T				
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A	L	I	E	U	R	O	S	R	A	D
H	O	N	I	M	A	C	B	Y	T	E
M	I	S	E	N	L	O	C			
A	A	H	S	W	E	N	T	S	O	L
I	G	O	T	E	V	A	A	S	A	F
L	O	P	S	R	E	P	I	S	I	S

Yesterday's answer 2-14

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Drew Bledsoe, 47; Simon Pegg, 49; Meg Tilly, 59; Terry Gross, 68.

Happy Birthday: Build your own opportunities. Pick something you enjoy doing and turn it into a prosperous venture. Clear a space at home to make room to explore the possibilities. Give yourself credit where due, and turn your everyday world into the adventure you want it to be. Change is apparent, so reach out and do your part to make it happen. Your numbers are 7, 18, 22, 25, 32, 40, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Opportunity is within reach, but it's up to you to take a closer look and to make it happen. Open your eyes, your mind and your heart to what's available and choose what's best for you. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put your best foot forward, and you'll find not only a place you enjoy, but one that offers benefits as well. Pick and choose instead of waiting for someone to do the honors. Your success depends on taking action. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't trust anyone who is promising something unrealistic. Opportunity is within reach, but it has to come through your own efforts, not a fast-cash scheme someone tries to lure you into. Trust in your ability to use your skills wisely. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Experience new people, places and pastimes. Attend an event that will offer knowledge and information that will encourage you to branch out and update your qualifications. A part-

nership looks promising and should be looked at and discussed with interest. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Celebrate something special with someone you love, and it will change your life moving forward. Kindness and consideration, along with charm and a promise that is too hard to resist, will result in new beginnings. A joint venture is favored. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Talks will lead to positive change, and actions will lead to reaching your goal. How you react to those you encounter will determine how you change your life moving forward. Take better care of yourself physically and emotionally. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look for any chance to learn, travel or to spend time with people you find entertaining, interesting and motivating. Stay away from individuals who bring you down or take advantage of you. Choose to surround yourself with positive people. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look into something that interests you. Learning something new will set you on a path that will help you explore your creative attributes and encourage you to try things you never thought possible. Live life to the fullest. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more time and effort into physical fitness, activities that make you feel alive and interactions with people who share your zest for life. Emotional matters will crop up if the people you usually associate with no longer share your passions. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let go of whatever isn't working for you anymore. If someone makes a change you don't like, follow the path that you find more comfortable. It's OK to go your own way or to do your own thing. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Question anything that seems suspicious. Someone will withhold information or play emotional mind games with you if you appear gullible. Don't overreact, but speak up if you feel you are being treated unfairly. Take charge and do your part. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be careful when dealing with people who tend to be manipulative. Listen carefully, and don't be afraid to say no to anyone who is asking for too much or trying to tempt you to take part in something that isn't right. **

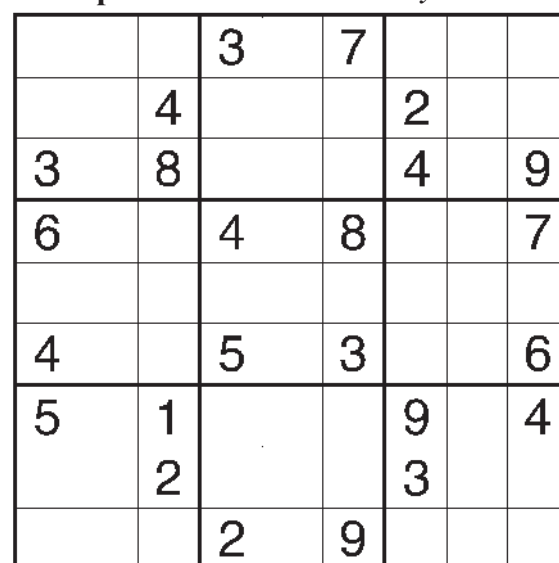
Birthday Baby: You are opportunistic, innovative and helpful. You are friendly and resourceful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



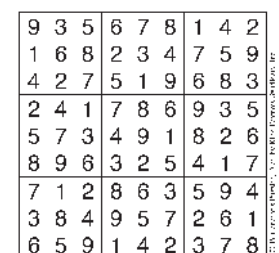
Difficulty Level ★★★

2/14

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

2/14

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

MMMM ... PRINGLES

Solution: 8 letters

S T B R A N D E H C A T S U M
T U F L O U R C Y E N O H A U
A B O M P A P R I K A O R L S
C U E I N I C A J U N I I L T
K L L C C L A V R T N S M D A
A A H O I I L E S A O E P R R
B R O E O H L U R S I L S E D
L A P T C G I A H T S G O S S
E A R N A L T C Z Y Y N D S E
C Y U B U T R I C Z I I I E A
K R T J E A O G I C I R U D W
C R I L T C T P N N B P M A E
A U L S A P U M P K I N P I E
N C H I P S K E L L O G G S D
S C H E E S E M I L Y T S E Z

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2/14

All Dressed, Barbecue, Brand, Cajun, Cheese, Chili, Chips, Cool, Corn, Crave, Crisps, Crunch, Curry, Flour, Honey, Julius, Kellogg's, Lemon, Liepa, Marinara, Mustache, Mustard, Noisy, Onion, Paprika, Pizzalicious, Potato, Pringles, Pumpkin Pie, Ranch, Salty, Seaweed, Shrimp, Snack, Sodium, Stackable, Starch, Tasty, Tortilla, Tubular, Zesty Lime

Yesterday's Answer: Snapback

The NEW Volume 55 can be purchased online at:

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www.dcrm.gov.mp

Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Janice E. Castro
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NOTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
of the CNMI'S DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: February 14, 2019

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resource Management (DCRM) is currently reviewing a federal consistency determination request from the United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding a proposed rulemaking for the area of overlap between the convention areas of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). This proposed action would change the application of IATTC and WCPFC decisions in the overlap area; that is, apply IATTC management measures in the overlap area rather than the WCPFC management measures. More information about the proposed activity can be accessed via the DCRM website at https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/FedCon-NOAA-NMFS_Rulemaking-for-Area-of-Overlap_02142019.pdf

Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a coastal state’s federally approved coastal management plan.

Comments on whether the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI’s coastal management program can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resource Management at FedCon@dcrm.gov.mp.

This public notice has been published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. DCRM is soliciting public comments for seven (7) days, starting on February 14, 2019 and ending on February 20, 2019, in order to give the public a sufficient opportunity to develop and provide comments on whether the proposed project is consistent with management program enforceable policies. We welcome your feedback and thank you for your consideration.

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) EXECUTIVE HOUSEKEEPER

Minimum of five (5) years housekeeping manager experience required (minimum 300-room hotel). Motivated self-starter with the ability to manage all functions related to the cleanliness of the hotel including guest rooms, pubic areas, and back-of house non-kitchen areas and to ensure the smooth and efficient running of the Laundry Department within the Rooms Division. Monitors the facility to ensure that it remains safe, secure, and well-maintained. Prepare and review financial budget, operational reports, and schedules to ensure accuracy and efficiency including monitoring time control. Set goals and deadlines for the department. Acquire, distribute, and store supplies. Must be able to work graveyard shifts-/weekends/holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, February 19th 2019.

PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (1-670) 234-5982
E-Mail Address: cpa.adm@cpa.gov.mp Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that the Board Personnel Affairs Committee will be holding a Special meeting on Friday, February 15, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, second floor of the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan on Saipan.

AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY MATTER:**
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes – February 8, 2019
- PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**
- GRIEVANCE HEARING**
- EXECUTIVE SESSION**
(Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912(a)(3))
- ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit will be imposed for oral testimony.

*Agenda approved by Joseph M. Diaz,
Committee Chair*

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Gemkell Saipan Corporation

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Boutique Supervisor (1)
This individual will be in charge of the overall management of the boutique and will be responsible for attaining the objectives established for the boutique, effectiveness of the operation, and the competitive position of the company's brand while ensuring a flawless representation of the company at all times. Another important responsibility is the training and development of the Store's sales team.

Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with one (1) to two (2) years of related or applicable work and management experience in luxury retail environment. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Must be familiar with the POS System.

Sales Associate, full-time (6)
Responsible for managing the customer's experience by identifying customer's needs and recommending or promoting the appropriate merchandise. Sales Associates also process all modes of payment using the POS System and help maintain and enhance the overall appearance of the boutique by maintaining the cleanliness of the store (showcases and displays).

Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales and must be able to lift at least 15-pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

Interested applicants may obtain employment application forms from the Front Office of Century Tours, Inc., located on the ground floor of the Kanoa Resort on Beach Road in Susupe Village, Saipan. Offices are open Sunday-Saturday from 9 AM-6 PM. Applications or resumes may also be submitted via email to gemkell_recruitment@tanholdings.com or posted online under the JVAs on the CNMI Department of Labor Website. To be considered, resumes or application documents must be submitted not later than **6:00PM on Monday, February 19, 2019**. Drug testing is required prior to employment and background checks will be required prior to employment.

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Pro Bowler Brown asks Steelers for trade



PITTSBURGH

(AP)—The Pittsburgh Steelers still haven't decided whether there's a path for wayward wide receiver Antonio Brown to return in 2019.

Not that it matters to Brown. He's already made up his mind.

A person with knowledge of the situation tells The Associated Press the perennial Pro Bowler has formally asked the Steelers for a trade, the latest move in a game of brinkmanship by the 30-year-old designed to force Pittsburgh to move him by the start of training camp this summer.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not permitted to publicly discuss personnel matters.

Brown appeared to make his decision official in a social media post released on Instagram on Tuesday. The video includes highlights from Brown's career with the Steelers while lyrics from "Do What I Want" by rapper Lil Uzi Vert plays in the background.

"SteelerNation thank you for nine big years!!!" Brown wrote. "Time to move on and move forward."

The post came shortly after Brown was found guilty in absentia on a charge of reckless driving in a suburban Pittsburgh court on Tuesday morning. Brown was charged in November for driving his black sports car over 100 mph in a 45 mph zone. He paid a \$426.77 fine. Brown did not attend Tuesday's hearing.

Brown still has three years remaining on the \$72 million contract he signed in the spring of 2017, and remains one of the most dynamic performers in the league. He is the only player in NFL history with six consecutive 100-catch seasons and he hauled in 104 receptions for 1,297 yards and a franchise-record 15 touchdowns in 2018.

Still, Brown's behavior became increasingly erratic last fall. The nadir came before Pittsburgh's game



In this Nov. 18, 2018 photo, Jacksonville Jaguars cornerback Jalen Ramsey, top, intercepts a pass intended for Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown (84) in the end zone during the second half of an NFL football game in Jacksonville, Fla.

against Cincinnati in Week 17. The team sent him home with an apparent leg injury on the Friday before the game and he failed to provide coach

Mike Tomlin with an update until Sunday morning, when his agent, Drew Rosenhaus, let Tomlin know that Brown was available to play.

Tomlin opted to make Brown inactive and Brown did not show up to clean out his locker or conduct an exit interview with the coaching staff. He

pulled out of the Pro Bowl with an injury and team president Art Rooney II indicated the team had been unable to make contact with Brown in the weeks after Pittsburgh finished 9-6-1 and failed to reach the playoffs.

Rooney, however, stressed last month he did not plan to "disparage" Brown and did not close the door on Brown's possible return. That still might be the case, whether Brown wants to come back or not.

There is no major rush with another month before the new league year begins, though Pittsburgh could work out the parameters of a deal by March 13. Brown's contract counts \$21.12 million in 2019, a number that inches north to \$23.62 if Brown receives a \$2.5 million roster bonus he's scheduled to receive on March 17.

The number seems daunting, but for once the Steelers are not right up against the salary cap thanks in large part to running back Le'Veon Bell's decision to sit out 2018 rather than sign his one-year franchise tender. The \$14.4 million Bell forfeited will roll over into 2019, giving Pittsburgh some flexibility to absorb a loss if Brown plays elsewhere.

Cutting Brown is almost certainly off the table, but what Brown could command on the trade market is uncertain. Pittsburgh received a third-round pick from Oakland last season for Martavis Bryant, who carried the weight of unmet expectations and a record that included multiple violations of the NFL's substance abuse policy.

Brown doesn't have that kind of baggage, though his behavior in recent months could give potential suitors pause.

MANCHESTER, England

(AP) — Kylian Mbappe and Paris Saint-Germain handed Manchester United a reality check under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, winning 2-0 in the Champions League last-16 Tuesday to inflict the interim manager's first loss.

Angel Di Maria was the architect of both goals in the first leg on his return to Old Trafford as PSG more than coped without injured forwards Neymar and Edinson Cavani.

The winger's corner was volleyed in by Presnel Kimpembe for his first PSG goal in the 53rd minute. After having a bottle thrown at him by United fans and taking a sip, Di Maria helped to complete a counter-attack by crossing for the advancing Mbappe to score.

United will be without Paul Pogba in the second leg on March 6 in Paris after he received a second yellow card in

PSG hands Solskjaer's first Man United loss

the 89th minute for a lunge on Dani Alves.

"I know Paul wants to just shield the ball so he's unlucky that he hits (Alves) on the knee," Solskjaer said.

Without two of its usual front three, the French league leader commanded the midfield instead, with Marco Veratti the orchestrator.

"It was a new system and we weren't really used to it," Mbappe said after scoring his 23rd goal of the season. "We had a lot of midfielders and not many forwards. We needed time to adapt, even though you can get punished for that in the Champions League."

But it was United that was exposed instead.

Not only was it a first loss for Solskjaer in his 12th match since replacing Jose Mourinho,

but the heaviest-ever home defeat for United in Europe, having previously only been beaten by one-goal margins.

In the night's other last-16 game, teenager Nicolo Zaniolo scored twice to lead Roma to a 2-1 victory.

United's lackluster performance was a continuation of the European form under Mourinho in the group stage. United has only scored one goal at home in four Champions League games this season, a 1-0 victory over Young Boys.

"It was one of those experiences that can go either way," Solskjaer said. "It's not going to be a season-defining one for us. It has to be one that we are going to learn from."

Aside from victories in north

London against Arsenal and Tottenham, facing PSG was United's biggest test since beating Italian champion Juventus in Turin in November in the group stage.

"You can see we haven't played games at this level for a while,"

Solskjaer said.

Twenty years after winning the Champions League as a United player, this was Solskjaer's first taste of the competition in management having only previously coached Molde in his native Norway and Cardiff before being hired by United.

Roma 2, Porto 1

Teenage midfielder Nicolo Zaniolo proved he can shine on the European stage, scoring both goals to give Roma a win at home against Porto in the first

leg of the Champions League round of 16 on Tuesday.

Zaniolo has emerged as one of Serie A's most promising talents this season since his transfer from Inter Milan in the offseason as part of the deal which saw Radja Nainggolan move the other way.

And the 19-year-old added his first Champions League goals by netting the 70th and 76th minute for Roma, before Adrian Lopez pulled one back for Porto three minutes later to give the visitors hope ahead of the return leg on March 6.

"It's a memorable night that I will never forget in my life," Zaniolo said. "Celebrating under the Curva Sud was an incredible emotion, I hope I will score many more important goals for Roma."

"The late goal we conceded

can be tricky for us ahead of the return leg but we will just continue working hard to try finishing the job in Portugal."

Zaniolo, who turns 20 in July, is the youngest ever Italian player to score two goals in a match in Europe's premier club competition.

"Zaniolo will become a real champion, not just according to me but according to everyone," Roma captain Daniele De Rossi said. "His physical strength is incredible for a guy of his age and he combines it with great technique."

The opening goal came after Edin Dzeko knocked down Stephan El Shaarawy's cross for Zaniolo to drill past Iker Casillas and into the far bottom corner. The teenager doubled his tally by tapping in the rebound after Dzeko's shot came off the left post.

It was the second time Dzeko had hit the post.



Jordan: Titles tougher than Harden, Westbrook's streaks



CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Michael Jordan says James Harden's streak of 30 straight 30-point games and Russell Westbrook's 10 straight triple-doubles are both impressive and tough to accomplish.

But the Charlotte Hornets owner said Tuesday—flashing a big grin—that there is one accomplishment tougher than both those feats: “Which is harder from the player's standpoint? Six championships by all means.”

Jordan praised both players for what they're doing, noting that both streaks are hard to accomplish.

Jordan said the milestones show “the talent that we have within the league.”

“It shows progression in the league,” Jordan said during an interview at his Hornets facility while discussing the upcoming All-Star weekend.

“I am very proud of how both guys have done because they are making a mark for the league and I think it really helps grow the league.”

Harden needed a late scoring spree on Monday night to extend his streak to 30 games, scoring 11 points in the final 100 seconds as the Rockets defeated the Dallas Mavericks 120-104. Harden, who is playing with a strained left shoulder, reached the 30-point mark by swishing a 30-foot pull-up jumper.

Westbrook finished with 21 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists to notch his 10th straight triple-double in the Thunder's 120-111 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers, breaking a tie with Wilt Chamberlain for the most consecutive triple doubles.

Both players will be in Charlotte this weekend for the All-Star game.

All-Star game marks latest milestone for MJ

Buzz Peterson knew Jordan as well as anyone when they were in college.

Roommates and teammates at North Carolina, they spent countless days competing on the basketball court in practice and endless hours talking hoops. Their nights often included shooting pool and tossing cards in their Granville Towers South dorm room. There often were arcade games—before the home video game craze hit—at the Pump House on Franklin Street in downtown Chapel Hill.

But Peterson never saw this coming: His roommate becoming an NBA owner and hosting the league's All-Star game in his home state of North Carolina.

“You know, staring across



the dorm room at him back then, no, I never would have thought this would happen,”

Peterson told The Associated Press.

Jordan didn't either.

“Frankly, no,” Jordan said Tuesday in a news conference previewing the All-Star

game. “Growing back up as a kid here in North Carolina, the first thing is play basket-

ball. Then things just evolved from there.”

While maybe unexpected, Peterson said he isn't shocked by what Jordan has achieved.

“Michael has always been very sharp, very smart,” said Peterson, now an assistant general manager for Jordan's Charlotte Hornets. “He's a very good listener. He gathers information and opinions and then makes decisions. And once he makes the decision to go after something, he goes all out. He is absolutely driven to be successful in whatever he chooses.”

The All-Star game will be played on Sunday—Jordan's 56th birthday.

“It's a constant reminder that I am getting old,” Jordan joked. “The All-Star game is always around my birthday and I wish it could be postponed a week.”

The only thing seemingly that has eluded Jordan is ultimate success as an executive and team owner.

His Hornets have yet to win a playoff series since he took over as majority owner nine years ago and they remain mired in NBA mediocrity while struggling to compete in a small market.

But Jordan wants to change any negative perceptions of the Hornets or of Charlotte. It's one reason he aggressively pursued the All-Star game, hoping the showcase will help attract marquee players in the future. He said Kemba Walker being an All-Star game starter also helps.

“It's an illustration of the type of players we are trying to draft and grow from within,” Jordan said. “So from a Hornets standpoint, that is on display this week. We have a lot of work to do and choices to be made to get to that (championship) level, but it starts with the presentation of what the city is all about—for other people to see and understand that this may be a small market but it is a unique city to be in, and that the fan base tremendously comes out and supports the game.”

Dell Curry is expecting Jordan to go all-out for this weekend's festivities.

“He's excited for the NBA to come to his home state and play in the building of the team he owns,” said Curry, the Hornets color commentator and former NBA player. “So he is going to roll out the red carpet. He only knows one way to do it, and that is big time.”

Hawks frustrate LeBron, Lakers

ATLANTA (AP) — Trae Young knew he'd have to carry a heavy load, and that was OK with him.

The rookie was pumped to face LeBron James.

Young had 22 points and 14 assists, John Collins also scored 22 points despite foul trouble, and the Atlanta Hawks defeated James and the Los Angeles Lakers 117-113 on Tuesday night.

The Hawks snapped a three-game losing streak despite a triple-double from James, who had 28 points, 16 assists and 11 rebounds.

“I try to live in big moments,” Young said. “I feel like I belong here. He's one of the best players of all time. But when I'm out on the court, I'm trying to compete and get a win.”

Young matched his season high by playing 38 minutes, taking on a greater burden after the Hawks bought out the contract of his veteran backup, Jeremy Lin. With Jaylen Adams sidelined by a sprained right ankle, Young was the only true point guard on the roster.

“It was definitely different,” Young said. Asked if he was tired, he said with a smile, “A little bit.”

Despite chants of “Kobe's better” from the sellout crowd of 16,824, James was cheered loudly by a hefty contingent

of Lakers fans. He turned in a dazzling effort, equaling his season high by playing 43 minutes, but it wasn't enough to make up for the subpar group around him.

The Lakers dropped 2½ games behind Sacramento for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

“We either make it or we don't make it,” James said. “Don't worry about it.”

But the frustration was apparent on his face when he stormed straight to the locker room as soon as the horn sounded.

“Some guys have never played a playoff game before,” James said. “You can't teach them that. It's very important to understand how important every game is, no matter who you're playing or where you are.”

Spurs 108, Grizzlies 107

In Memphis, After a night of successful 3-point shooting for the San Antonio Spurs, LaMarcus Aldridge took over inside in the closing minutes.

Aldridge scored 22 points, including San Antonio's final seven, as the Spurs broke a four-game slide with a victory over the Memphis Grizzlies.

Aldridge's inside baskets to close the game were contrary to a Spurs offense that benefited from going 13 of 21 from

outside the arc on the night, including 13 of 16 through the first three quarters.

“When (teammates) are knocking down shots like that, it gives me space to play one-on-one on the block, and I can get to my moves,” Aldridge said.

Celtics 112, 76ers 109

In Philadelphia, the Boston Celtics still own the Philadelphia 76ers no matter who is on the court.

Gordon Hayward scored 26 points, including a go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:50 remaining, and Boston beat Philadelphia 112-109 on Tuesday night. Al Horford had 23 and Jayson Tatum scored 20 and grabbed 10 rebounds to help the Celtics continued their dominance over the Sixers.

Playing without All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving, who sprained his right knee Saturday night, the Celtics beat the Sixers for the third straight meeting this season after defeating them in five games in the Eastern Conference semifinals last season.

“Against a very quality opponent was big, especially on the road without Kyrie, it was huge,” Hayward said.

Joel Embiid had 23 points and 14 rebounds and Jimmy Butler scored 22 for Philadelphia.

Magic 118, Pelicans 88

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis doesn't want to play for New Orleans anymore. In a blowout loss Tuesday night, he noticed his teammates may have felt the same way.

“We sucked,” Davis said. “Nobody was interested in playing, is what it looked like.”

Davis scored just three points on 1-of-9 shooting and was thoroughly outplayed by Orlando center Nikola Vucevic as the Magic beat the listless Pelicans 118-88.

“Obviously I missed a lot of shots, a lot of easy shots—layups and stuff that I normally make—early in the game,” Davis added.

Warriors 115, Jazz 108

In Oakland, the Warriors could not look ahead to the NBA All-Star break. Not when they played a Utah Jazz team that historically took advantage of the Warriors' miscues.

So, the Warriors finished with a victory over the Jazz at Oracle Arena. That happened after the Warriors relied on their talent in sluggish wins against Phoenix and Miami.

Kevin Durant (28 points on 11-of-19 shooting), Stephen Curry (24), Klay Thompson (22), Andre Iguodala (13) and DeMarcus Cousins (12 minutes) all posted double-figures.

Bumgarner, Posey would love to see Harper join Giants



SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.
(AP)—Madi-

son Bumgarner and Buster Posey would love to see Bryce Harper join them in the San Francisco Giants clubhouse.

"I think it'd be a huge addition for us," Bumgarner said Tuesday as the Giants opened spring training. "He's obviously a superstar in the game, a young player. I think everybody in here would be pretty damn excited to have him."

Harper and the Giants met in the free agent slugger's hometown of Las Vegas last week, and new San Francisco baseball operations chief Farhan Zaidi said the sides had mutual interest.

"I think anybody who plays Major League Baseball would love to have him on their team and that's no exception here," Posey said. "The type of player he brings and the passion he brings to the game, if we were lucky enough for it to work out, it'd be great."

"What is he, 26? He's won an MVP," Posey said. "That's pretty much all you need to know."

San Francisco opens camp with Steven Duggar, Mac



Williamson, Austin Slater and Drew Ferguson as outfield candidates.

"I've been part of teams that we won when we probably weren't supposed to. We've seen plenty of other teams do it. Obviously, some guys, like Harper, that's going to make any team better: Bumgarner said. "That's not to say we couldn't do it without him. We've got the guys and we could do it. It's all a mentality."

Angels hope Ohtani ready to DH by May

In Arizona, the Los Angeles

Angels hope Shohei Ohtani recovers from Tommy John surgery in time to join their batting order by May.

The AL Rookie of the Year

had Tommy John surgery Oct. 1 to repair a torn ulnar collateral ligament in his right elbow. The first player to hit 20 homers and make 10 pitching

^{AP}
In this Oct. 21, 2014 photo, San Francisco Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner, left, talks with catcher Buster Posey during the second inning of Game 1 of baseball's World Series against the Kansas City Royals in Kansas City, Mo.

appearances in the same season since Babe Ruth, Ohtani is not expected to pitch this year but the Angels would like to have his bat in the lineup.

"We're thinking May, sometime in May, but that's assuming everything goes well," new manager Brad Ausmus said Tuesday. "This is new territory. We're dealing with a guy who DH's on a regular basis and is a starting pitcher. It's new territory in rehabbing

a Tommy John surgery, and we want to protect him long-term being able to do both. If we have to push it back, we'll push it back."

Ohtani has been swinging without hitting a ball. He has yet to hit off a batting tee, Ausmus said.

"He's going to want to get on the field quickly because he wants to compete," Ausmus said.

The Angels also are monitoring Albert Pujols' return from left knee surgery on Aug. 29. The first baseman had a debridement, during which damaged tissue was removed.

"Albert is doing everything right now," Ausmus said. "We'll have discussions with him on how he's feeling regularly."

Mets, deGrom set opening day deadline for contract

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla.
(AP)—NL Cy Young Award winner Jacob deGrom wants to hear the New York Mets' best pitch on a multiyear contract by opening day — and the team thinks that's a good call, too.

New general manager Brodie Van Wagenen, who was deGrom's agent before switching sides at the bargaining table last fall, told reporters Tuesday at spring training there's "no reason for a distraction to carry into the regular season."

He said the club will continue discussions with deGrom this spring and see where they lead. That leaves about six weeks to get a deal done before the Mets' season opener March 28 at Washington.

However, the 30-year-old deGrom cannot become a free agent until after the 2020 season, so the sides could always reopen negotiations next offseason.

Last month, the Mets and deGrom agreed to a \$17 million, one-year contract to avoid arbitration—a

raise of \$9.6 million over his 2018 salary.

Van Wagenen clarified Tuesday that he will indeed be involved in any talks with deGrom about a long-term deal. The rookie GM said he recused himself from the pitcher's arbitration negotiations to avoid a potential conflict of interest.

Mets pitchers and catchers will hold their first formal workout Thursday. Van Wagenen and deGrom are both scheduled to be available to reporters that day.

"Jacob clearly is a guy that we value. He's clearly a player that we hope will be with us for a long period of time and we have ongoing dialogue with him and his representatives on a variety of things, including his status with us going forward," Van Wagenen said last month.

Last summer, when he was deGrom's agent, Van Wagenen suggested the Mets should consider trading deGrom if they weren't planning to commit to him long-term.

NMSA

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the provisions of sub-paragraphs (d) (i)-(ii) above (citizenship and residency). These discretionary powers shall include, but are not limited to, utilizing the prevailing eligibility rules of an International Federation where the following conditions are satisfied by the applicant International Federation no later than fifteen months prior to the Pacific Games."

NMSA president Michael White, during the group's monthly meeting last Thursday at the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter office at

Airport Road, said they will seek waiver for Kabiriel on the grounds of the veteran athlete having represented the CNMI in previous Games.

Kabiriel and his fellow paddlers will join the canoe competition that will take place on July 9, 10, 12, and 13 at a new venue—Mulifanua. Canoe races were moved out of the Vaiusu Bay and Mulinu'u peninsula, as organizers had problems with planning and logistics. Mulifanua, according to the Samoa Games website, is also more suitable for canoe races with its flat water and conditions and great views of the host country.

UPSET

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Maas, 6-4, 6-3.

In the boys U10 singles, the unseeded Tsukagoshi joined No. 1 June Yu, June Lim, and Yutaka Kadokura in the semifinals.

Tsukagoshi clinched a Final Four seat after demolishing No. 2 Riku Takahashi, 6-0. The upset victory in last weekend's game allowed Tsukagoshi to arrange a Final Four duel against Kadokura, who labored through a 6-4 win over Eun Been Hwang. Yu, on the other hand, eased his way to the semis after getting a bye last week and he will face June Lim this weekend for one of the two finals tickets. Lim moved one victory away from marching into the finals after ousting Ki Won Lee, 6-4.

Meanwhile, the girls U12

singles event is also down to the last four players after two won their opening matches last weekend.

Hoo Wang bagged a semis slot following a 6-3, 6-2 triumph over Ji Eun Kwon and the former will square off against No.1 Savita Sikkil, who got an outright Final Four berth after drawing a bye in the first round. No. 2 Irin Chung also had a bye to make it to the semis where she will take on Dain Lee, a 6-1, 6-1 winner against Anne Lee.

The semis matches in the girls U12 singles and boys U10 and U12, along with the other events in the Northern Marian Islands Tennis Association-sanctioned competition will be played this Saturday and Sunday, while the title matches are scheduled for Monday.

DANDAN

From Page 24

in the weekend competition will get them the higher seeding in the Feb. 23 playoffs against squads from six other schools.

"Although we were only able to get four of the 10 boys teams and five of the 10 girls teams, we will still be allowing Tanapag Middle School, Cha Cha Middle School, Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School, as well as Rota and Tinian to join in the championship tournament scheduled for Feb. 23. Those teams that competed last Feb. 9 will receive the higher seeding in the tournament," PSS Athletic Department director Nick Gross said.

Hopwood swept all three games in the boys division of the 4x4 grass volleyball contest, beating Dandan 1, 2, and 3. The three teams from Dandan have similar 1-2 slates with Dandan 2 winning the tiebreak and second place in the standings based on points system (+6). Dandan 3 (+5) and Dandan 1 (+2) came in at third and fourth, respectively.

In the girls division, Hopwood 1 had a perfect 4-0 mark



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dandan Middle School player and their coach huddle before playing in the Public School System Inter-scholastic Volleyball Tournament last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

after downing Hopwood 2 and 3 and Dandan 1 and 2. Hopwood 3 was ranked second with its 3-1 mark and was followed by Hopwood 2 (2-2), Dandan 2 (1-3), and Dandan 1 (0-4).

Meanwhile, the PSS Interscholastic 3x3 Basketball Tournament will be held this

Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The competition is for high school division and will also follow a pool play format in the preliminary round with the single-elimination playoffs scheduled for March 2.

The middle school grass

volleyball and 3x3 basketball are part of PSS' spring sports program, which will run until May. PSS will also have athletics, 4x4 basketball (elementary), and canoe races, and a separate disability sports festival for Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.



Pro Bowler
Brown asks
Steelers
for trade

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Jordan:
Titles tougher
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Upset wins for Jim, Tsukagoshi



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Takeru Jim, seen here serving during an earlier local tournament, made it to the semifinals of the boys U12 singles event of the 2019 White Coconut Tennis Classic last weekend at the American Memorial Park.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Lina Tsukagoshi and Takeru Jim stunned their seeded opponents to make it to the semifinals of their respective singles events in the 2019 White Coconut Tennis Classic last weekend at the American Memorial Park.

The unranked Jim eked out a super-tiebreaker win over No. 2 Ji Houn Lee to notch a Final Four berth at the bottom half of the draw in the boys

U12 singles event. Jim dropped the opening set, 4-6, but stole the victory when he swept the last two, 6-3, 10-7. With the upset, Jim set up a semis



showdown against fellow unseeded player June Yu, who marched to the next round following a 6-0, 6-2 triumph over Ki Suk Lee.

In the other semis pairing, it will be the No. 1 seed Juncheol Hwang versus Wataru Kadokura. Hwang drew a bye in the opening week to automatically make it to the semifinals, while Kadokura barged into the Final Four after eliminating Vladimir Van Der

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Dandan, Hopwood to get higher seeding in volleyball tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



It was an all-Hopwood Middle School and Dandan Middle School show at the start of the Public School System Interscholastic Volleyball Tournament last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Hopwood fielded four teams, while Dandan had five in the round-robin preliminaries and their participation

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Hopwood Middle School student returns the ball to Dandan Middle School 2 during their game in the Public School System Interscholastic Volleyball Tournament last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



NMSA to seek eligibility waiver for Kabiriel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association will be seeking a waiver that will allow long-time and multi-awarded

athlete Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel to compete in the canoe races in the 2019 Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

Under the Pacific Games Charter, athletes participating in the meet must be citizens or passport hold-



ers of the country they are representing. In the CNMI's case, athletes must be a U.S. citizen. Kabiriel was born in Chuuk and does not hold a U.S. passport.

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However, the 2016 NMSA Male Athlete of the Year can still represent the Commonwealth in this year's Pacific Games, as there's a provision in the charter that would waive the eligibility rules on the affected athlete.

Portion of Article 26, discussing eligibility rules state that "the Executive Board shall have the discretion to waive

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MICRONESIAN CUP GUAM

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, rear, is seen here racing with his Marianas Outrigger Club teammates during a regional tournament in Guam.

